

Too Much Deducted From Nixon Salary?

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon has given selected Republican leaders an advance glimpse at a thick stack of personal financial reports he plans to release publicly this week.

The unannounced White House meeting Monday came as unofficial calculations indicated Nixon apparently was entitled to sizeable refunds in the last three years because of over-withholding of federal taxes from his salary.

The President opened the meeting with Vice President-designate Gerald R. Ford, GOP Chairman George Bush and seven Republican congressional leaders, by giving a 20-minute preview of his personal finances.

Then his aides and lawyers presented a 90-minute briefing on the series of statements and documents intended to refute allegations about presidential finances.

White House spokesmen would give no details, saying it was a private meeting, but Rep. John B. Anderson of Illinois, one of those attending, said the lawyers gave an extensive presentation of Nixon's financial situation while President.

"I am not an accountant, but they seem to have all the facts and figures in hand," Anderson said. He added that the attorneys defended Nixon's \$500,000 income tax deduction for donation of his vice presidential papers, quoting them as saying "they would be prepared to go to court and defend that deduction."

Others at the meeting were Sens. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Robert P. Griffin of Michigan, Norris Cotton of New Hampshire and John G. Tower of Texas and Reps. Leslie C. Arends of Illinois and John J. Rhodes of Arizona.

The Associated Press reported Sunday that White House

documents list the President as paying \$72,686 in federal income taxes for 1969, \$789 for 1970, \$878 for 1971 and \$4,298 for 1972.

A comparison of those figures with the Internal Revenue Service's minimum withholding rates indicates Nixon could have gotten tax refunds ranging upward from about \$45,000 for each of those years.

There was no official confirmation, however, of the precise amounts of the refunds, or whether the President received refund checks, savings bonds or applied the amounts to future taxes.

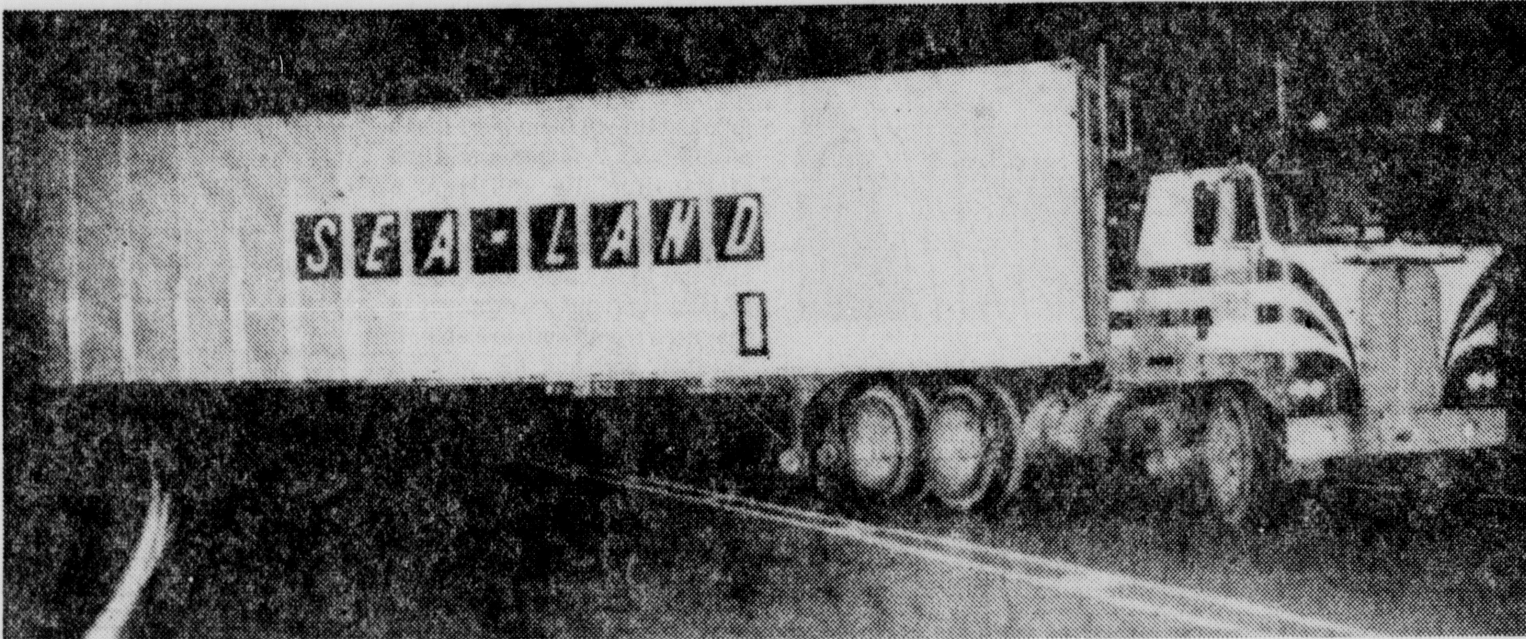
The unofficial computations also indicated that the amounts withheld from Nixon's \$200,000 salary in 1969 probably were not sufficient to cover the more than \$72,000 in taxes he paid that year — meaning he probably had to dig into his own pocket to pay the difference.

But during the next three years, the standard minimum withholding for an individual in Nixon's salary category would have ranged from about \$48,000 to about \$65,000 a year.

The IRS periodically changes the withholding formula to reflect tax law changes.

White House documents report that the government withheld \$30,816 from Nixon's pay check in the first five months of 1973 — a figure that roughly corresponds with the current standard minimum withholding rate.

The level of federal income taxes paid by Nixon dropped sharply when he began claiming deductions for donation of his vice presidential papers. Records show he also was entitled to sizeable deductions on property taxes and interest.



ROAD BLOCK: A truck is stretched across the entrance and exit paths of route 80 in Blakeslee, Pa. early Tuesday morning. Truck drivers blocked

traffic to protest lowering of speed limits and the high cost of fuel. (AP Wirephoto)



POLICE CONFRONT DRIVERS: Pennsylvania State Policemen talk with protesting truck drivers in an effort to have them move their trucks that

were parked on route 80 in Blakeslee, Pa. blocking traffic early this morning. The protest ended after about five hours. (AP Wirephoto)

Protesting Truckers Halt Freeway Traffic

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Truck drivers protesting high fuel prices and reduced speed limits blocked westbound lanes of an interstate highway in Ohio for two hours today, only hours after the end of a similar protest in Pennsylvania.

One driver was arrested in the Ohio demonstration, charged

with illegally parking on the highway. There were no arrests in the Pennsylvania protest which lasted about five hours and created a traffic jam involving 1,000 vehicles, according to authorities.

Officials said the Ohio demonstration began at about 7 a.m. when four trucks pulled up, two on the highway and two on the shoulders, and blocked westbound lanes of Interstate 70. Two of the truckers claimed mechanical trouble caused them to stop; the third said he was out of fuel.

The Ohio Highway Patrol said traffic was backed up for two miles at the height of the demonstration. They said they did not know how many trucks were involved.

The demonstration, about 10 miles east of Cambridge, ended at about 9 a.m. when the two broken down trucks were repaired and the Ohio Highway Patrol brought fuel for the third. The driver of the fourth truck, Robert Gallicchio of Somerset, N.J., offered no excuse for stopping and was arrested.

Gallicchio posted bond at Cambridge Municipal Court and was released.

The Pennsylvania protest on Interstate 80 near Blakeslee

ended at about 3 a.m. after the truckers read a list of their demands to newsmen.

The blockade started shortly after 10 p.m. Monday night when a truck driver identifying himself as "River Rat" used a citizen's band radio transmitter to urge other truckers to pull their rigs across the east-west highway. State police said

within an hour several hundred trucks had stopped near the Blakeslee exit in Monroe County, choking off traffic for up to five miles in both directions. Maj. Edward Wojan of the state police said it was impossible to tell how many of the truckers were participating in

(See page 9, column 1)

60-Cent Gasoline Pushed

Gasoline at 60 cents per gallon could result if Congress goes along with a plan to boost the federal tax on that fuel in an effort to reduce gasoline consumption. See article on page 7.

Cold Kills Five

ROME (AP) — The cold killed five persons during the night, including two new babies, and at least 12 persons were missing as snowstorms and north winds swept the Italian peninsula.

TEEN DRIVER IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Watervliet Crash Takes 3 Lives

Two Berrien county residents and a Chicago man were killed and four other persons injured in a two-car crash Monday afternoon north of Watervliet.

Dead are Allen Post, 20, Fikes road, Riverside; Glenda Salmon, 14, Dan Smith road, Watervliet; and Joseph W. Hines, 48, Chicago.

Berrien sheriff's deputies said the crash occurred about

2:15 p.m. on M-140 near Dwight Boyer road in Watervliet township.

Officers said a car driven by Robert Scherer, 17, of 143 Allen court, Watervliet, skidded out of control on M-140 and was struck broadside by the Hines vehicle.

The deaths brought to 48 the number of persons who have died on Berrien roads this year. At the same date last year, 61

persons had been killed in traffic accidents.

Post and Miss Salmon were passengers in the Scherer auto.

Scherer was taken to Watervliet Community hospital and later transferred to the intensive care unit of Benton Harbor Mercy hospital. He was listed in "critical" condition this morning.

Two passengers in the Hines

car, Mary Murray, 29, and her 21-month-old daughter, Matricia, both of Chicago, were listed in "satisfactory" condition in Watervliet hospital.

The accident is still under investigation, according to deputies.

Surviving Glenda Salmon are her parents, Robert and Willidean Salmon; a brother Robert Jr., at home and her

grandmothers, Mrs. Delphia Hammond of Watervliet and Mrs. Verdia Vincent of Coloma.

Funeral arrangements were

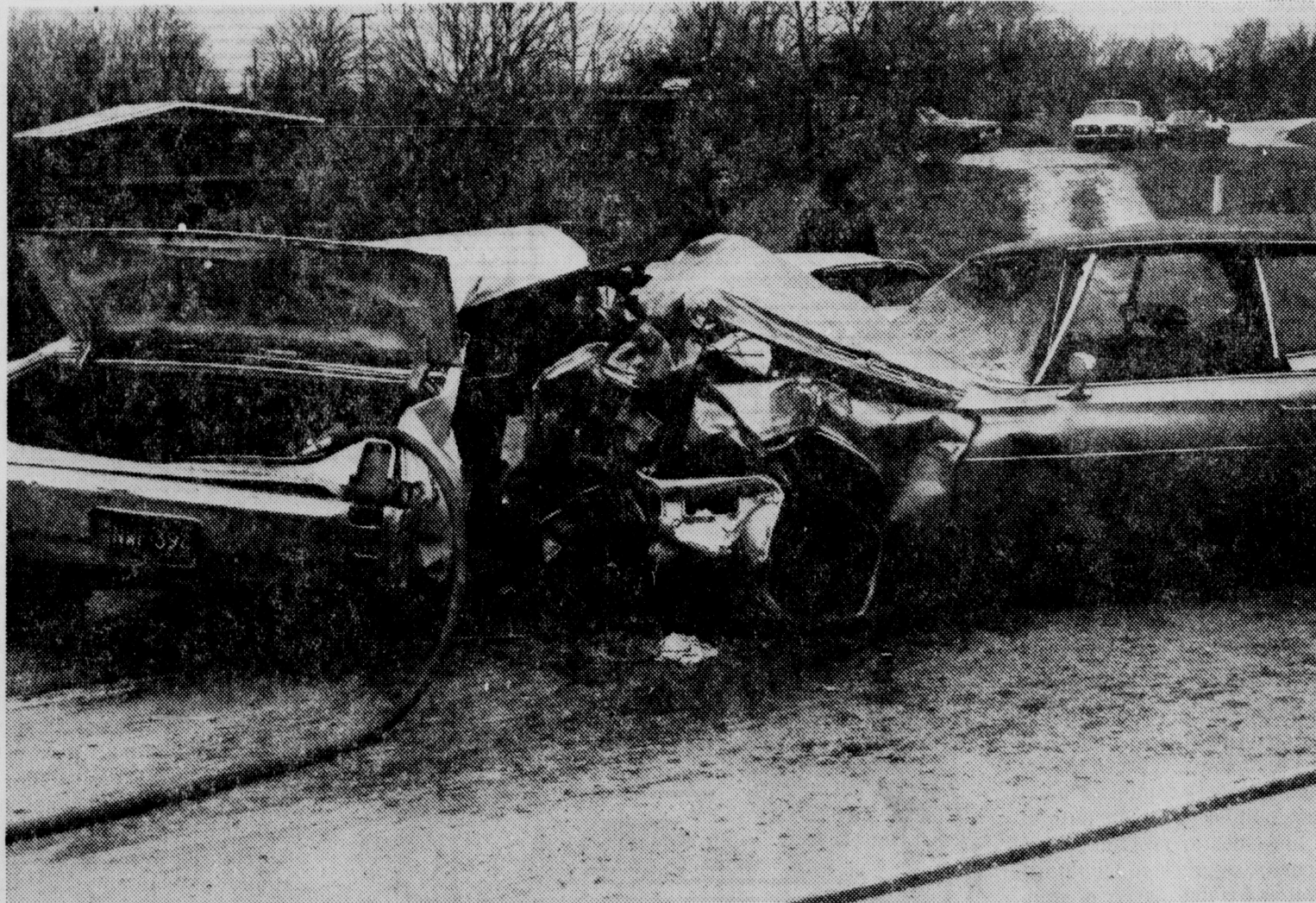
48 Auto Deaths In Berrien County In 1973

incomplete today at the Hutchins funeral home, Watervliet.

Mr. Post was employed by the Pat Mason construction company of Benton Harbor.

Survivors include his wife, the former Cheryl Martin; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Post, of Bear Lake, Mich.; a half sister, Mrs. James (Judith Ann) Post, of Benton Harbor; and a grandmother, Mrs. Eva Post, of St. Joseph.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Day Brothers funeral home. Burial will be in New Troy cemetery.



TRIPLE FATALITY: Three persons were killed and four injured in the crash of these two cars Monday afternoon on M-140, north of Watervliet. Berrien sheriff's officers reported car at left driven by

Robert M. Scherer, 17, Watervliet, skidded out of control and was struck by auto driven by Joseph W. Hines, 48, Chicago. Hose in trunk of car is precautionary measure against fire. (Cliff Stevens photo)

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SECTION THREE

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Concert Sold Out

BROADSTAIRS. England (AP) — Tickets were sold out quickly again this year for the annual carol concert to be conducted by British Prime Minister Edward Heath.

Winning numbers Crystal Springs Florist Open House 303898, 303626, 303343. Adv.



ALLEN POST
Dies In Crash



GLENDAL SALMON
Teenager Killed

Political Gifts Would Be Open Book

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A bill slightly weaker than originally intended but which would open the books on political fund raisers is ready for a vote in the Michigan Senate.

The bill as it now stands requires those making political contributions of more than \$25 to list his name and address as well as the amount of his contribution. Amendments placed on the measure Monday night would exempt those making public contributions less than \$25. However, a person buying two \$24.99 tickets to a fund raiser—or spending more than a total \$25—would have to sign the list.

"I don't like the exemption for under \$25 because it still leaves a little loophole. But I think, on the whole, it will work," said Sen. Milton Zaagman, R-Grand Rapids, whose Municipalities and Elections Committee approved the bill 4-0 last Wednesday.

Sen. John Bowman, D-Roseville, introduced an amendment which would have eliminated reporting of all contributions less than \$25. Moments later Sen. William Ballenger, R-Lansing, who sponsored the bill, tacked on another amendment requiring the listing of anyone who spends more than a total of \$25 for the candidate.

"Somehow, in some small way this (the bill) will help restore credibility to this whole mess of campaign financings," said Zaagman. Ballenger called the bill "only a peashooter in what should be an artillery battle against campaign finance abuse."

While the fund-raising bill held center stage, two related measures are waiting nearby in the wings. One, which renewed some floor debate Monday would impose a conflict of interest code on non-elected state employees. The other—about to be reported out of Zaagman's committee—would shed public light on the whole field of campaign financing and impose heavy penalties for violators.

As reported from the committee, the fund-raising bill would force the listing and filing of all contributions—theoretically down to a penny—for political fund raisers such as dinners and banquets.

That brought a howl from Bowman and several other suburban Detroit Democrats, who complained red tape could snarl "one dollar beer busts."

The measure—which would affect candidates to the U.S. Senate as well as those running for local school boards—requires the listing of contributors' names, addresses and amounts contributed.

Contributors and their money would be an open book before most elections since candidates or their committees would have to file with local county clerks "a full accounting of the expenses for the event and revenue from the event."

Additional money collected after the first accounting would have to be similarly reported within 10 days.

Copies of the reports would be filed in the secretary of state's office where they would remain public record for three years.

The law would apply to all persons or committees who sponsor political fund raisers "for a public official or candidates for public office." Violation would be a misdemeanor.

Bodies May Be Kidnaped Boys

DETROIT (AP) — The bodies of two boys, believed to have been kidnaped in Detroit over the weekend, were found today in a ditch in suburban Romulus Township.

FBI agents and other police who had conducted an intensive hunt for the missing boys hurried to the area.

A Wayne County sheriff's officer said the bodies were those of two blacks, five to eight years of age, but said the identities of the two boys had not been confirmed.

Further details were not available immediately. (See earlier story on page 8.)

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

It's Possible 1974 Could Be Year Of The Bicycle

It begins to look as though 1974 may be the year of the bicycle. Every year is the year of the bicycle in some countries, where two-wheelers (not the motorized kind) are the commonest form of urban transportation. In the United States, the steady rise in biking we have witnessed over the past several years seems likely to take a big jump.

The impetus will come, of course, from the energy crisis. Especially if gasoline rationing is imposed, as it probably will be before very long, many people are going to discover that the bike is not a bad way to get around.

There are disadvantages, true. A bicycle can't go as fast as a car, nor is it as comfortable. The rider is exposed to wind and weather, a drawback that all but rules out bikes in northern areas during the winter months. A bike is not ideal for transporting large,

clumsy packages or anything that flops about. One encounters an occasional dog with a penchant for ankle-nipping. In a contest between car and bike, the latter almost always comes off second best.

But then one comes to the advantages. A splendid bike, geared for ease and speed, can be bought for a fraction of even the smallest auto's cost. Bikes require no fuel save that which sustains the inner man. Bicycling is healthful; it tones up muscles, improves circulation, trims off flab. Bikes are easy to park, and can thread in and out of slow-moving traffic at a pace that makes auto drivers clench the wheel in frustration.

A lot of people may feel that bicycling to work or to the shopping center is undignified. When gas is rationed, or priced at a dollar a gallon, they may change their minds. Maybe the year — or the age — of the bike is just about at hand.

Here's \$100 For Your Good Digestion, John

A minor but enduring American contribution to the art of politics is the fund-raising dinner. The party faithful pay for the privilege, or duty, of eating an indifferently good meal and listening to lackluster speech-making. At the state and local level, chicken a la king and peas the texture of buckshot are standard fare. Holders of or aspirants to national office generally offer prime ribs of beef au jus. They had better, considering that each plate generally sells for \$100 or \$1,000.

An early starter on the 1974 political banquet circuit is John B. Connally, former Texas governor, former cabinet member, and former Democrat. Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R. Ariz.) will be the guest speaker at a \$100-a-plate "Welcome John Connally" dinner, to be held in Dallas on Thursday, Dec. 13. The purpose of the affair, it may be assumed, is to welcome Connally to the Republican Party, to which he defected earlier this year. But GOP officials say that proceeds from the dinner will be used to support county

and state Republican headquarters and candidates in next year's elections.

For the sake of one's political image, it is important that all seats at a fund-raiser be sold in advance. A testimonial dinner for then-Vice President Spiro T. Agnew on May 19, 1972, fell substantially short of a sellout. The Maryland Republican Party thereupon obtained a \$50,000 loan from the Finance Committee to Re-Elect the President for the purpose of papering the house. "It was political puffery to make it (the Agnew dinner) look as good as possible," said Maryland GOP Chairman Alexander M. Lankler Jr. when the story came out. "We hadn't sold the house out. We knew the press would look at the success of the affair. Don't forget, Agnew was not yet on the (Nixon re-election) ticket. We were anxious to make Agnew look as good as possible." Texas Republicans no doubt hope that the Dec. 13 dinner will do the same for John Connally.

Some Say It All Started With The Treaty Of Paris

A number of historians contend that the United States is an imperialistic power and has been for three-quarters of a century. In support of their argument, they point to the half-forgotten Treaty of Paris, which was signed exactly 75 years ago—on Dec. 10, 1898. By that pact, which formally ended the Spanish-American War, Spain relinquished all claim of sovereignty over Cuba and ceded to the United States the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. In effect, Spain handed over the bulk of its empire to the United States—and—received only \$20 million in return.

The Spanish-American War had been immensely popular—possibly because it was so short—and public support of the Treaty of Paris was substantial. In urging Senate ratification of the pact, President McKinley declared: "The Philippines like Cuba and Puerto Rico were entrusted to our hands by the war, and to that great trust, under the Providence of God and

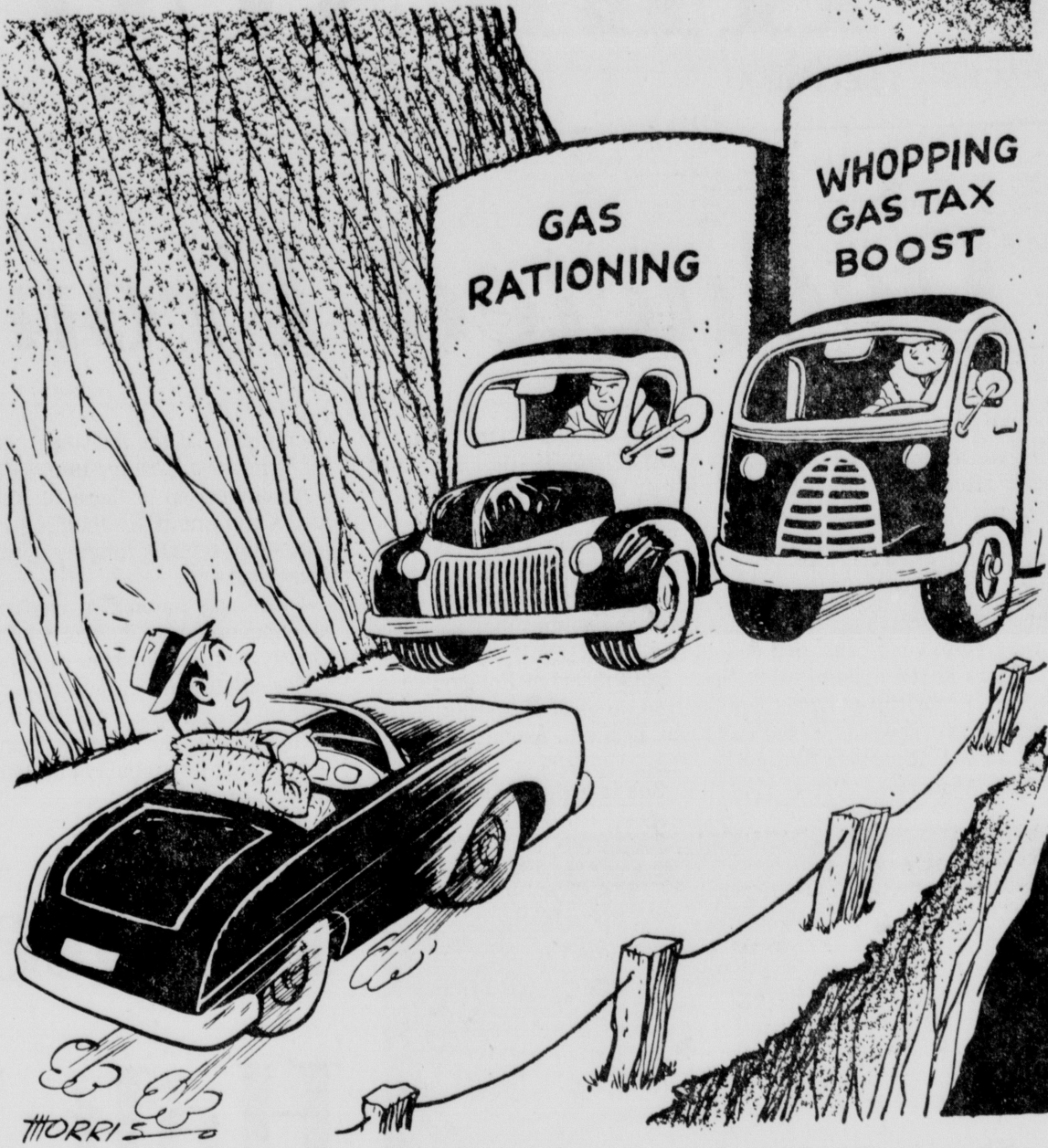
in the name of human progress and civilization, we are committed....We could not discharge the responsibilities upon us until these colonies become ours, either by conquest or treaty. Our concern was not for territory or trade or empire, but for the people who interests and destiny, without our willing it, had been put in our hands."

Despite such rhetoric, it was by no means certain that the Senate would approve the treaty. The Anti-Imperialist League, formed in June 1898, included such distinguished Americans as Jane Grover Cleveland, Addams, Andrew Carnegie, and Samuel Gompers. The league insisted, Barbara Tuchman wrote in *The Proud Tower* (1966), that "The quest for power, money and glory abroad...would distract from reform at home and bring in its train a strong central government destructive of traditional states' rights and local liberties."

The treaty seemed doomed until William Jennings Bryan, McKinley's opponent in the presidential election of 1896, asked his supporters to vote for it. When the votes were tallied on the Senate floor on Feb. 9, 1899, the pact was ratified—by a one-vote margin. And so began this country's long imperialistic adventure, revisionist historians might say.

Others, noting how narrowly the Treaty of Paris squeaked through, could argue that American peace movements exert powerful influence, too. Strong anti-interventionist sentiment helped to keep this country out of World Wars I and II until almost the last possible moment. And the long Vietnam struggle gave rise to perhaps the most broadly based anti-war movement in American history. For the moment, at least, few Americans have any taste for further military adventures abroad.

What A Choice!



GLANCING BACKWARDS

EXPERIENCED LAKERS ARE TOUGH

— 1 Year Ago —
Experience can work both ways for a basketball team, and Lake Michigan Catholic coach Sam Skarich is well aware of the situation this year. The Lakers return six lettermen from last year, all regular players, making Skarich both optimistic and leery at the same time.

"All this experience is the biggest thing going for us," says the Laker coach. "But it doesn't matter what you have back. It's only what you get done on the court that counts. And everybody's going to be shooting at us, so there aren't going to be any easy games."

JANE DAMASKE NAMED STATE APPLE QUEEN

— 10 Years Ago —
Petite Jane Damaske, 18, of route 1, St. Joseph, was Tuesday evening chosen the 1964 Michigan Apple Queen. Miss Damaske, daughter of fruit growers Mr. and Mrs. William Damaske, was one of seven Apple Princesses competing in the state-wide finals, sponsored jointly by the Michigan Horticultural Society and the Michigan State Apple Commission.

ELKS HONOR THEIR DEAD

— 29 Years Ago —
A large number of friends and

relatives attended the impressive memorial services conducted by the St. Joseph Elks Lodge at the Elks Temple Sunday evening. The services, which honor the dead of the order, were held in the evening for the first time in the history of the local lodge.

The lodge of sorrow was conducted by the officers of the lodge under the direction of Exalted Ruler Arthur Traxler.

FLURRIES COME TO SJ

— 39 Years Ago —
Snow flurries, a swift drop in temperatures and a near gale that buried the harbor piers under giant waves, was December's greeting to St. Joseph. The mercury dropped 27 points from a high of 60 to 33 degrees.

GROWERS INCORPORATE

— 49 Years Ago —
Incorporation of a company of Michigan growers, headed by J.G. Boyle of Buchanan, which will market fruits grown here directly to consumers in Chicago, is announced.

EVENT OF THE SEASON

— 59 Years Ago —
The big event of the season socially was the opening party of the Whitcomb Dancing and Card club at the Hotel Whitcomb. Hosts were Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Canavan, Atty. and Mrs. Charles Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ogden Wells, Dr. and Mrs. W.L. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Young, Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Dickinson and Dr. A.A. Rosenberry. The affair was formal and many stunning gowns were worn for the first formal affair of the season.

\$1.04 A POUND

— 83 Years Ago —
Dick Lysaigh has done an extensive business this season in shipping water cress and mushrooms. He gets \$1.04 a pound in Chicago for mushrooms.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

COMMENTS ABOUT SAN JUAN TRIP

Editor,
Business As Usual at City Hall.
While we ignorant taxpayers are being gouged for more taxes at every turn, these important city officials are going to blow themselves to a \$3,900 trip to sunny San Juan, to attempt to bring enough pressure to bear on their political counterparts in Washington to release vast sums of our tax money for them to flush down the city sewer.

These nonproductive programs are the joke of the century. The only real beneficiaries of most of these social programs are the ones who have set themselves up as directors and administrators and their assistants. I hear they are now hiring assistants to the assistants, and the real irony of all this is that some of these directors and administrators are about as far out of place in their position as a castrated bull would be in a pen filled with yearling heifers. They seem to be so busy cutting up a fat hog for themselves that they have almost forgotten what their purpose and the purpose of the programs really are.

In Benton Harbor more programs, more bureaus and new departments are the order of the day.

A while back they created a new department for the purpose of "changing the Skyline of Downtown Benton Harbor", this sounds like a sentence out of a comic book. Thus far the pigeons have contributed more to changing the skyline than this department has or ever will.

To many of us ignorant taxpayers who are footing the bill for this repetitious one-act comedy, this looks like little more than another form of welfare and high priced welfare at that.

There's one thing for sure, unless we get the message across to some of these politicians by ridding ourselves of them at the polls, there is little or no hope of things getting any better.

Oscar Kort
Route 1, Box 567
Coloma.

NIXON DEFENDED BY READER

Editor,
Mr. R. H. Conklin: This is in answer to your letter in the Readers Forum, Nov. 28.

Mr. Conklin, you should explain how you know President Nixon is flying all over the country and using 2,000 gallons of jet fuel. Do you think you can give any respect by not going along to abide with what he is asking of the people for their own good? You mention about writing to the Senators and Congressmen, letting them know how you feel about their not setting a good example. Do you think you are setting a good example by your Bla! Bla! You should have faith in your country and its leader. You say it is not necessary for the innocent to say they are not a crook. They haven't proven anything against him.

How do we know what you are? Why didn't they publicize all the wrong doings of the Democrats? They shouldn't let any of them ever have a place in the government again. The people are for Nixon for no other president ever won a second term by a landslide.

You said you were going to urge all of the voting public to write our Senators and Congressmen and let them know we do not like what is happening in Washington, they are not going to they are writing in praising him for his honesty and good he has done in bringing this world to peace terms, and that is more than the Democrats ever did.

It takes more than a politician to be president. To be successful you must hold all the virtues of leadership that were ever recorded in the Good Book. Master of foreign relations, expert in diplomacy, proud family man, visionary mind, financial whiz, humble in his job, faithful to his trust in protecting our security, aggressive for things loyal and right, master of emotions, cool to judge, kind, generous, sympathetic and a Christian. Richard Nixon has them all, they are his Golden Rule.

Mrs. Harold Selters
Watervliet.

Ray Cromley

Our Security Tied To Europe



WASHINGTON (NEA) — Secretary of State Dean Acheson once told this reporter the security of West Europe was so vital to U.S. defense that all else paled beside it.

We could afford, he said, to give way reluctantly in Southeast Asia, in Latin America and Africa if need be, but our existence would be endangered if we did not hold to Europe and Europe to us and if the European Allies did not stand firmly together.

This belief led indirectly to the Vietnam war. For it was the firmness of this conviction which caused Acheson to give way to French insistence that they stay in Indochina and that we back them in that stand. "I talk and talk to them but I make no headway," Acheson told me at the time. He was then, a quarter century ago, firmly convinced the French should go and the Indochinese be allowed to take over the government of that area from South to North. If Acheson had had his way, of course, there would have been no dividing lines and therefore no war to involve us. Acheson, in these sessions, was clearly unburdening himself, airing his inner doubts as to the wisdom of his course. But, valuing the alliances with France and Europe as he did, this craggy hawk saw no other way out but with Paris.

Today, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger holds the same belief about Europe.

Listen now to Kissinger, the strategist, a number of years back:

Were "the impotence of NATO to be demonstrated, all other areas would fall to the Soviet Union almost by default. Whatever their moral preferences, consideration of national interest would impel them to seek the best terms available. If Europe should prove unable to

resist Soviet pressure and if United States support should appear unavailing or unsuited to the nature of the threat, it would be futile to challenge any further demonstrations of Soviet power...."

This conviction explains Kissinger's strong reaction when key West European nations seemed to collapse before Arab pressure.

It wasn't the lack of cooperation with Washington that caused the greatest consternation here. For it could be said these Allies see things differently than Kissinger, the White House and the Pentagon. The West Germans, the French and the British could argue the Mideast war was a local skirmish not worth taking a stand, that this was no moral nor strategic Munich.

What bothered Kissinger was that the Allies at the start of the crises showed themselves divided and unable or unwilling effectively to help themselves and each other. When the threat first descended they were not able to agree on effective action to counter the Arab oil embargo. Only two had complete ration systems ready to go plus 65-day reserve stocks of oil. Some were reluctant to participate in any emergency sharing program. Nor could they at the first moment of truth agree on how to assist the Netherlands, a special Arab target.

But the latest news reports tell a different story. After initial dawdling, the European parliament of the nine nations of the Common Market recommended to their European Council of Ministers a strong common energy policy — sharing of scarce supplies, diversification of resources, consideration of economic counter-measures.

Jeffrey Hart

Nixon Parallel In Disney World



Making a quick trip to Orlando's Disney World to catch President Nixon's Saturday night press conference, and also address the newspaper editors assembled there for their annual meeting, I was first of all struck by the scene itself.

A pleasure dome had Kubla Khan... Disney World really is a pleasure dome, and also a vivid sociological datum. Like George IV's oriental palace at Brighton, like the Versailles of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, like the ancient hanging gardens of Babylon, Disney World is a perfect reflection of its time and place, a brilliant symbol of the American middle class that came to affluence and electoral power after World War II.

Disney World is not just an amusement park, but a

comprehensive resort, the product of very careful thought. In some ways it has everything: luxurious accommodations, golf course (on which there is an annual professional golf tournament), tennis courts, pools, beach and lake, nursery for the family baby, speedboats, sailing, saunas, midnight cruise on a replica side-wheel steamboat, spectacular roof-top cocktail lounge, behind whose picture windows the tropical Florida sun sets in sullen splendor, French, American, Polynesian and other restaurants, a monorail train that whisks you from place to place — and, well, you name it.

All of this obviously fits the moderately affluent "typical" American family like a glove: babies to the nursery, teenagers to the amusement park or water-skiing, dad to the golf course (the golf carts leave right from the hotel), mom to the beauty parlor, the shops, the beach. With superb appropriateness, you don't even have to handle cash in Disney World, any more than you do in Scarsdale or Anaheim. When you register, they issue you a credit card, good throughout the establishment. For a week of sunny relaxation, indeed, that family could do worse.

Nixon's appearance there had a peculiar appropriateness. He himself is so much the symbol — indeed the political creation — of that post-World War II middle class. For Nixon, as for them, the war was a bridge between Depression and opportunity; he, like them, came back from the war and through luck and effort built a career. Disney World really is a pleasure dome, and standing there before the editors, fielding their questions with an unfamiliar ease of manner and language, Nixon had come home.

It was almost a mythic moment when, denying that he was a "crook," Nixon made the central American affirmation that he had "earned every penny I ever got."

BERRY'S WORLD



"Who do I see around here about buyin' one of those unfilled diplomat positions?"

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SJ City Manager Hill Confirms Retirement



G. W. HEPLER
Waiting In Wings

Commission Will Name Successor

As this newspaper predicted in July, Leland Hill has resigned as city manager of St. Joseph effective January 1, two years prior to retirement age.

Hill, who will be 63 at the end of this month, submitted his resignation to the St. Joseph city commission last night to end a 38-year career with the city that includes nearly 23 years as city manager.

Standing in the wings as successor is G. W. (Jerry) Hepler, assistant city manager and director of public works in St. Joseph. Mayor Franklin Smith refused to definitely state that Hepler would be the new city manager, explaining that the

commission would sit down soon, perhaps next week, to name a successor.

But Smith indicated the city commission is not looking at other candidates and that Hepler is the front runner for the position. "Draw your own conclusions," he said.

The newspaper story in July also predicted that Hepler would succeed Hill.

Hill's current salary is \$26,735. His successor's salary will be set by the city commission.

In other business, the city commission elected Commissioner Joseph Hanley as Mayor Pro Tem to succeed C.A.



HILL RETIRES: Mayor Franklin Smith of St. Joseph (left) read City Manager Leland Hill's resignation statement last night to the St. Joseph city commission. Hill's resignation is effective Jan. 1,

two years before retirement age. Hill decided to retire about 10 months ago and revealed his intentions to the commission earlier this year. From left: Smith, Hill and Commissioner Warren Gast.

Tobias, Jr. who resigned from the commission last month, and awarded the contract for ex-

pansion of the water treatment plant to Pearson Construction Company of Benton Harbor.

Asked why he is resigning early, Hill said he wants to spend some time with his wife "which is something I haven't been able to do for 25 years," with plans to "do whatever I please when I please."

In a brief statement, Hill said: "I have enjoyed working with the commission and really appreciate the cooperation and guidance you have given over the years. I further appreciate the cooperation of the citizens of St. Joseph. The understanding and help of everyone has been outstanding. These items and many more contribute to the healthy condition in which we find the city."

Hill said he has worked with Hepler for 10 years and has "trained" him to step into the city manager position, but emphasized that it is "up to the commission" to choose a successor.

A native of St. Joseph, Hill has spent his whole life in the area and said he intends to stay here after his retirement. "I have lots of hobbies," he said, noting "a thousand dollars of fishing equipment that I use 10 days a year." He said he also plans to golf and hunt. Asked if he would travel, Hill said "where would I get the gasoline?"

Hill started with the city in 1935 and served as building inspector and city assessor until 1945 when he was named assistant city manager. He is only the second city manager in St. Joseph since 1928 when his predecessor, Herman G. Crow, took office. Crow died in 1951 and Hill became city manager.

Looking back, Hill said some of the achievements he is proud of include urban renewal, the rebuilding of half the downtown area into a more progressive area, paving of all city streets, a variety of public works projects and bigger and better equipped police and fire departments.

Hill said he is leaving his successor a "city in excellent shape both physically and financially." When he took office, Hill said he wanted to see the job was done properly and "I feel I have done so." He said "I am sure I miss the city manager position, but I can't tell with any accuracy until I am out."

City Atty. A.G. Preston, Jr., who has served with the city since the late 1940's, said "I will miss 'Sam' Hill badly."

Smith said Hill had indicated his desire to retire earlier this year, adding "you will be missed by me, the commission and the people who have worked with you." The city commission then approved a resolution accepting Hill's resignation with regret.

In the audience, former Mayor Tom Sparks said "just look around you" to see what Hill has accomplished. "He has done an excellent job and served the city well under pressure," Sparks said, adding that Hill and Crow were "two of the finest city managers in the United States."

In other business, the com-

mission approved awarding the contract for expansion of the St. Joseph water treatment plant to Pearson Construction Company as low bidder. The low bid was announced at \$2,898,000 during bidding Nov. 20, but an arithmetical error was discovered raising the bid to \$2,902,950. But a \$33,200 deduc-

tion in equipment leaves the actual contract at \$2,869,750. The contract will be let by the Berrien County Board of Public Works.

The commission also approved the low bid of \$168,181 by Woodruff and Sons of Michigan City, Ind. for construction of a 30-inch ductile iron

transmission main from the Water plant up Lake court to Lakeshore drive.

Also, the commission approved purchase of a waste pump for lift stations from Krum Pump company of Kalamazoo for \$3,635 out of revenue sharing funds.

Record \$659,845 Budget Passed By Catholic School

The Lake Michigan Catholic board of education last night approved a record \$659,845 budget, a 4.7 per cent increase over

the 1972-73 budget.

Robert Gentry, chairman of the budget and finance committee, said the 1973-74 budget was

the biggest in the five-year history of the school. Last year's budget was \$631,000.

Gentry decided to state

where the additional funds will come from, and Don Stock, high school principal, noted the school system already has about \$30,000 in unpaid bills, of which about \$24,000 is carryover from last year.

Gentry said spending through the end of October is on course with the budget, adding "the proposed budget numbers are in line with what we've done so far."

The motion approving the budget was passed unanimously. Gentry did say that one source of income for the system is the bingo games.

The board also asked Rev. Leroy White to check into the possibility of getting a watchdog to roam the halls of the middle school at night. Father White said the school has been offered a large dog free of charge.

Reward For Slayer Reaches \$2,000

The reward has risen to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayer of William S. Sheffield, proprietor of a Benton township furniture store.

Benton Township Police Chief Joe Sieber said the Sheffield family has posted a \$1,500 reward which combined with a \$500 reward announced last month brings the total to \$2,000.

Sieber also said police need new leads in the

investigation of the slaying that occurred Nov. 8 at Sheffield's store, 1378 Territorial road.

He appealed to anyone with possible information on the case to call the township police station with the assurance that "their names will not be used."

The \$500 reward was posted by Kenneth Haynes, a service station operator and also a relative of Sheffield.

SJ Township Will Give Apartments A New Chance

St. Joseph township board last night voted to rescind its action of Nov. 20 which denied rezoning of a 20 acres on Cleveland avenue for construction of apartments.

The board vote was unanimous. The vote followed Trustee Robert DeVries' criticism of board action without giving the developer, Wayne Nelson of Indianapolis, Ind., a chance to testify.

The vote also followed receipt

of a legal opinion that the planning commission in recommending rezoning by a 4-3 margin with the chairman abstaining did not constitute a majority vote.

Atty. John Crow suggested the request to rezone land at 3563 Cleveland just north of Maiden Lane from R-2 (single family) to R-5 (multi-family) be sent back to the planning commission.

Atty. Crow also suggested

that the township insist that the County Planning Commission either formally approve or disapprove the proposed change. Atty. Crow also said he believed the county planners had 60 days to act.

There was brief discussion before the 15 persons in the audience. Supervisor Orval L. Benson turned over the gavel of the meeting to Treasurer Einar (Larry) Larson to eliminate any conflict of interest charges. Benson said he had once listed the property when he was a real estate broker.

Persons in the audience said Nelson had as much notice as anyone of the meeting held Nov. 19 in E. P. Clarke elementary school. It was at that meeting that a motion to disallow any rezoning was passed.

DeVries in his statement traced the action from the time the plan was presented in June to the rejection and asked that the developer be given an opportunity to present his project.

Said DeVries: "As with almost all rezoning requests of this type there are objecting pressure groups. If this township is to continue to grow and develop we must override these pressure group wishes and do what is best for total township residents."

In other action the township approved a sewer line

agreement with Lincoln township on Maiden Lane; noted board of review meeting will be 1 p.m. Dec. 11; and heard Larson say that winter tax bills have been mailed.

In response to a question from the audience, Benson explained the \$30 inspection fee required after each sanitary sewer hookup. He said the inspection is to assure quality of materials and workmanship in making the connection.

BH Woman Hospitalized By Gunshot

A 27-year-old Benton Harbor woman was shot in the shoulder with a rifle early this morning, and her father arrested on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, Benton Harbor police reported.

Listed in "fair" condition at Benton Harbor Mercy hospital was Noreen Glaspy, of 685 Colfax avenue. Booked into the county jail was Jake Glaspy, 71, of the same address.

Police indicated the shooting occurred about 1:40 a.m. with a .22 caliber rifle as the result of a family quarrel.

Fulcher Listed In 'Fair' Condition

Veteran Berrien county Assistant Prosecutor Quentin R. Fulcher was in "fair" condition early today at Mercy hospital, Benton Harbor, with a flareup of a diabetic condition.

According to court, hospital and family spokesmen, the 48-year-old assistant prosecutor

became ill while arguing a motion to suppress evidence in an armed robbery case about 4:20 p.m. Monday in Judge Julian Hughes' Berrien circuit courtroom.

Fulcher asked for a recess, rested in Judge Hughes' office, and was brought to Mercy by ambulance.

He was expected to be hospitalized a few more days.

Fulcher, of 1757 Council drive, Benton township, has been an assistant prosecutor some 16 years and was named the county's first fulltime assistant in 1967.

Ypsilanti Fire Called Arson

YPSILANTI, Mich. (AP) — State Police Fire Marshall James Thomas says arson was the cause of a \$300,000 fire that swept through Ypsilanti's business district last week.

No one was reported injured in the blaze that roared through the Popular Furniture and Appliance Co. and Auto Parts Inc. Thursday.

BH Commission Has Quick Session

Benton Harbor City Commissioner F. Joseph Flaugh, who served as mayor in 1951-55, returned to mayoral duties for one night Monday and guided the commission through its agenda in 23 minutes.

Flaugh was elected mayor pro tem in the absence of Mayor Charles Joseph and Mayor Pro Tem Virgil May, who are at a convention in Puerto Rico. Also in Puerto Rico are Commissioners Charles Yarbrough and Bonita Branscomb. The five commissioners present last night constituted a quorum, however.

The business included approval of an expense report form for

cars; actual cost of meals when outside Berrien county; and actual cost of lodgings. They also are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The public hearings will deal with two proposed zoning changes: Permit existing, but non-conforming commercial businesses to enlarge their stores up to 50 per cent; and reduce the depth of rear property on commercial sites from 20 to 10 feet. Currently, businesses in areas zoned for other purposes may not alter their stores.



SHOPPING DAYS TO CHRISTMAS



rolling today with a \$15 contribution, and the VFW Fruit Belt Post No. 1137 came through with \$5.

C'mon, Good Fellows, let's go.



Illegal Entry Is Charged

NILES — Two men were charged with illegal entry after they were arrested by city police at Niles Waste Paper, 853 North Front street, about 11:30 p.m. yesterday.

Police identified them as Gary L. Myers, 26, of 1818 Ferry street, Niles, and Paul A. Johnson, 23, Eau Claire.

Officers said they observed a man climbing over a fence at the firm, and found two men inside.

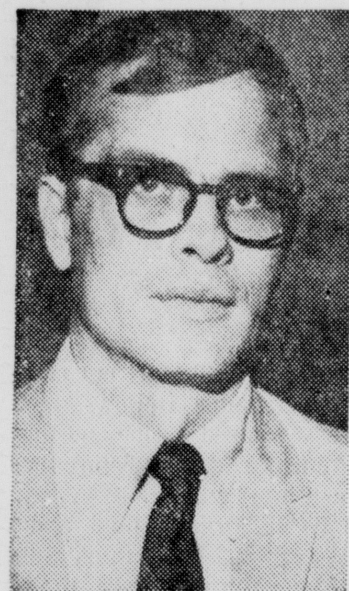
Gov. Milliken Hails Proposed Bertrand Plant

Western Electric Distribution Center Faces Zoning, Referendum Fights

By LYLE SUMERIX
South Berrien Bureau
NILES — Even as Gov. William Milliken was praising plans for a \$5 million Western Electric material supply center in nearby Bertrand township, opposition to the planned construction began to surface.



DONALD F. RYMAN
Fights rezoning



BERNARD D. HENELY
Sees referendum

Atty. Donald Ryman of Buchanan, a member of the Berrien County Planning commission, button-holed Western Electric officials at the Holiday Inn announcement luncheon yesterday with a strong protest.

Mrs. Bernard Henely, 2410 Weaver road, Bertrand township, told this newspaper yesterday afternoon that her husband will lead a petition drive to secure a referendum aimed at blocking rezoning of the 110 acres where Western Electric plans to build.

Gov. Milliken obviously had thought about the possible pro's and con's of the four-state material service center before addressing Western Electric, Michigan Bell and local and county officials.

He called the proposed plant an "important economic boost" for Niles and the state. He described the proposed warehouse and distribution center as architecturally attractive.

And the governor emphasized

that the center would operate "without polluting either the air or the water."

Milliken took pains to describe Western Electric as having demonstrated itself "over and over again as a corporate good citizen, interested in promoting the overall best interests of the community and the state."

The governor described himself as "very honored to take part" in the formal announcement.

"It (the new plant) is good for Western Electric; it's good for Niles; and it's good for the state," he declared.

Milliken said the new center would employ 300 persons and have an annual payroll of \$3.6 million.

"Our efforts to bring new industry to Michigan are aimed very simply at creating new jobs," the governor said. "We feel that we have an obligation to do everything we can to assure that every Michigan citizen who wants to work has the opportunity to do so."

Milliken added "And the fact is that the most promising way in which we can achieve that very humanitarian and socially desirable goal is to create a climate in which business can operate profitably, with a maximum of governmental cooperation and encouragement and a minimum of governmental interference and harassment."

This newspaper Saturday revealed plans for the proposed plant. It is to be a one-story, 600,000 square foot structure covering 14 of the 110 acres and it is to be located at Chicago road (US-12) and Chamberlain road, a mile southwest of here.

The center is to serve as a material storage and distribu-

tion center for Bell systems throughout Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. It is the sixth of seven regional service centers being built by Western Electric, the manufacturing and supply arm of the Bell systems.

The site for the building is currently zoned for agricultural use and would have to be rezoned to light industrial use to clear the way for construction.

Ryman said he was opposed to the change because it would not conform to a county development plan and because he was concerned about the "ringing" of Niles with industrial zoning.

Ryman, an attorney for Clark Equipment company in Buchanan, at one time was chairman of the county planning commission which developed the county development plan.

The county commission has already gone on record against the proposed change. In a 5 to 0 vote, with one abstention and five absences, the commission voted for rejection at a meeting June 14. The commission is an advisory group to local governments.

The five voting were Robert Palmer, Coloma township, chairman; H. Edward Totzke, Benton Harbor; Robert Pagel, Berrien Springs; Charles Rollinger, St. Joseph, and Ryman.

Abstaining was Arthur Reed of Niles. Absent were C. W. Henkle, Lakeside; Howard Bishop, Coloma township; Leo Rutz, Watervliet; Jerome Krieger, Sodus; and Fred Krause, Hagar township.

The action was based on what the commission labelled "spot zoning" and a lack of specific development information. No details of the proposed center had yet been made public.

Mrs. Henely said petitions bearing more than 400 signatures of area residents opposed to the location had already been submitted to the township board. She said the earlier petition drive had been led by her husband, who is an attorney for Clark Equipment.

"Once something like this gets started," Mrs. Henely said, "it has a tendency to sprawl. We have too few nice areas to live now."

The residents, said Mrs. Henely, are not opposed to Western Electric, just the site.

Despite the opposition, Township Supervisor Brayton Yaw said, after yesterday's announcement program, that he would recommend to the township board that it approve the rezoning.

The supervisor said he did not expect action on the change, however, until after a public meeting in January.

The township's zoning board May 19 recommended to the township board that it rezoned the land, before it knew the details of the development, according to Herman Hoekstra, zoning board chairman.

Hoekstra said the board took action on the basis that the change was proposed by Township Atty. Harold Klute of Niles.

According to Hoekstra, Klute told the zoning board the land was wanted by a "blue chip" company and that the facility would not degrade or pollute the



ANNOUNCEMENT PRINCIPALS: Gov. William Milliken, left, was among principals at luncheon in Niles where plans for \$5 million Western Electric material supply center were detailed yesterday. Center is to be located in Bertrand township and serve Michigan Bell Telephone company as well as

Bell systems in three other nearby states. With Milliken from left, are Brayton Yaw, Bertrand township supervisor; Daniel K. Chinlund, Western Electric vice president; and David K. Easlick, Michigan Bell president. (Staff photo)

area.

Klute, Bertrand township attorney for 20 years, is representing Western Electric. He asked to be relieved in the rezoning matter and was

replaced by Atty. John Spelman of St. Joseph.

Hoekstra said the zoning board's action was based on an understanding that the township board would not act on the

rezoning until detailed plans were available.

Voting with Hoekstra were Albert Siekman Jr., Richard Bassler and Jack Welbaum, the entire board.

The proposed rezoning has been before the township board since spring, but township officials said they did not know who was involved until last week.

Berrien Springs

Well Site Options Okayed

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Berrien Springs village council last night voted to buy for \$3,000 the purchase rights for two parcels of property on which the village will drill for water.

Last night's action is the latest in the series of village attempts to find new sources of water to meet demands of a growing population around the village.

Village President Edgar Kesterke said the village has spent "close to \$20,000" in test holes that have produced mostly dry holes.

He said the village is under orders from the state water resources commission to find new water sources if the village is to extend water mains beyond village limits.

Options purchased by the council last night were for two near 10-acre parcels in Berrien township, according to Village Clerk Wade Gorham.

One parcel of approximately 10 acres is owned by Elmer Raffier, Gorham said, and the other parcel, also approximately 10 acres, is owned by Glenn Prillwitz, he said.

Raffier is asking \$4,000 an acre for his land and Prillwitz is asking \$83,000 for his near 10-acre parcel, Gorham said.

If the village finds water on either parcel it will have by last night's action an option to buy the land at those prices, Gorham said.

In other action last night, the council voted to continue to hold village elections on an annual basis.

Bridgman Buses Will Keep Running

BRIDGMAN — Bridgman school board members were told last night that at the present time it appears the district will have ample fuel to run school buses for the remainder of the school year without a cutback.

Dr. David Lechner, school superintendent, told the board that the district should "break even" on the amount of fuel used.

Lechner said, however, that no additional activities in which adding to fuel consumption are contemplated. In a related area, Lechner said that

the district will spend about \$15,000 more for electricity than was spent last year. He reported that about \$65,000 was spent last year for electric service.

Lechner said that additional electric service needed this year for the new high school and community swimming pool were reasons for the cost increase.

In other areas, the board adopted a section into its constitution dealing with the development of district policies, regulations and bylaws. Action was taken as

part of the process of attaining North Central association (NCA) accreditation for the high school.

Anthony Korican, high school principal, reported that the accreditation project is proceeding on schedule. Korican added that the chairman of the NCA visitation team, whose committee will make the final decision on the school's accreditation, will visit the high school Dec. 10.

Korican reported that approximately 700 hours had been logged thus far by the accreditation steering committee, and anticipated an equal amount of hours will be expended by the committee before the process is completed.

The board voted to join the Berrien county cooperative purchasing program for the 1974-75 school year. Lechner reported that the board's membership in the program would provide it with more competitive prices in the purchasing of school supplies.

Baroda Welcomes Big Expansion Of Casting Firm

BARODA — Baroda village council last night approved plans to locate Lakeside Manufacturing company in new quarters.

The council approved issuance of a building permit for the new structure.

Larry Holben, one of owners, said the company needed the new building because it has outgrown present facilities on First street. Planned is a 100 by 125 foot building at the south end of the street, estimated by Holben to cost \$100,000.

He estimated construction would start in about 90 days, weather permitting.

Holben described the company's operation as the machining of die castings, and said it was a quiet, clean, and non-polluting process.

In other business, Howard Gaul, water superintendent, announced he would flush water hydrants in the village Saturday afternoon, Dec. 8. He advised housewives to be aware of rust-colored water during flushing

operations.

Gaul asked that any village resident interested in reading water meters to contact him.

Clerk Ileen Tollas announced the deadline for filing nominating petitions for village office in the March 11 election is 4 p.m. Dec. 31. Petitions are available at her residence, 9050 Fifth street.

Officials whose terms expire are President Edwin Tomlinson (R), Clerk Tollas (D), Treasurer Leona Ott (D), and Assessor Henry Nitz (R), all two-year terms; and Trustees Ronnie Miller (R), Henry Reitz (D) and Leon Zordell (R), four-year terms.

Mrs. Tollas said that under a new state law, trustees are elected to four-year terms and the three trustees whose terms expire in 1975 will serve until 1976.

All officials except Tomlinson have indicated they plan to seek re-election. Tomlinson is stepping down due to health reasons.

Palisades Shutdown Cuts Into Revenue

Covert Twp. Gets Good, Bad Tax News

COVERT — Covert township residents were receiving good news in the mail about this year's property taxes, but were getting a warning about next year's tax situation from the township board last night.

Supervisor Jerry Sarno informed the board that the extended shutdown of the \$125 million Palisades nuclear power plant, located in the township, could cut deeply into township tax funds next year.

The plant has been shutdown since August for repairs and is not expected to re-open until early next year. Its taxable value is based in part on its operation.

Sarno said the taxable value might be cut by 25 per cent because of the shutdown, thereby cutting 20 per cent or \$42,000 from the township's expected \$212,000 in property tax revenue.

Sarno said a decrease in the Consumer Power company's plant taxable value would also cut into funds for schools and other taxing units covering the township.

The schools, Sarno indicated, would stand to face the greatest cutback since it now receives over \$1 million from township property taxes.

The plant's taxable value this year is \$45,397,215 or 80 per cent of the township's total taxable value of \$54,379,057. The township figure is up \$12 million over last year due largely to added value from the plant.

Sarno's report came when township residents were receiving 1973 tax bills which showed an 8.4 mill reduction in the tax rate. The drop came from defeat of a seven-mill school property tax renewal issue earlier in the year; .65 mill decrease in a school debt retirement levy and a township road fund and expiration of a three-quarter mill levy of the South Haven Community hospital authority.

In other action, Fire Chief Tony Sarno was authorized to purchase a second ambulance for the township's ambulance service for about \$19,000. Most of the cost is to be reimbursed from the county's .4 mill property tax for ambulance service, township officials reported. They said the remainder would be covered by federal revenue sharing funds.

A low bid of \$8,100 was accepted from R. A. Imus Inc. of Paw Paw for a Dodge truck chassis for a new fire truck. Sarno reported the chassis is being financed out of federal revenue sharing funds.

Equipment for the truck is expected to cost another \$30,000, according to officials.

In another federal revenue sharing purchase, the board agreed to buy for \$6,500 the Lindsey property on Lake street west of the fire department building for use as a parking area.

Trustees voted that lighted Christmas decorations in the Covert business district will be turned on Dec. 24 and 25. In previous years, the township decorations have been lighted from Thanksgiving through the first week of January.

The board increased the township police force to four men by hiring Nelson Madry, 41, of South Haven, as a new officer.

Madry, who has nine years experience in police work in Indiana, was interviewed and recommended by Lt. Glen Foster of the South Haven state police post, Clerk F. B. Hoffacker reported.

Township Atty. Sheldon Rupert notified the board in a letter that the township legally cannot make any payment to a private organization to help the organization defray expenses. At the November board meeting, the Van Buren United Civic organization had asked for a donation to help defray costs for paving the parking lot at the organization's Lake street building.

Draft Violator Ordered To Work

KALAMAZOO — Kenneth Johnson, 22, of 1015 South Indiana, South Haven, was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District court here to 20 months of probation after pleading guilty to failing to keep his draft board informed of his whereabouts.

Judge Noel P. Fox ordered Johnson to spend 15 hours of nationally important work per week for 20 months. A probation officer said this usually involves community-oriented work such as in hospitals and social agencies.

A spokesman for the U. S. attorney in Grand Rapids said Johnson was indicted in June 1973 for failure to appear for induction into military service in November 1971. He was arrested by FBI agents last August.

The spokesman said Johnson was listed as living in Champaign, Ill., in November 1971, and the charge was reduced after it was established that he had not received a draft notice.

Van Buren Group Given Aging Grant

COVERT — A \$1,706 planning grant has been awarded to the Van Buren United Civic organization by the Michigan Commission on aging, according to Charles Proctor, president of the civic organization.

Proctor said the grant, to be matched by services and contributions at the local level, will be used to develop applications for funding for senior citizen programs in the county.

He said meetings to plan such programs will be held in various communities in the county.

He said plans for senior citizen programs will be developed by a sister organization of the United Civic organization, the Senior Citizens United for Progress.



110 YEARS OLD: Mrs. Nellie Oline, born Dec. 4, 1863 in Branch County, Michigan, is celebrating her 110th birthday today. Mrs. Oline was given a birthday party Sunday at the Maple Lawn Rest Facility in Coldwater where she resides. She received letters of congratulation from President Nixon, Gov. Milliken, Senator Griffin, Lt. Gov. Brickley, vice-president designate Jerry Ford and several other leading politicians. (AP Wirephoto)

Too Much Deducted From Nixon Salary?

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon has given selected Republican leaders an advance glimpse at a thick stack of personal financial reports he plans to release publicly this week.

The unannounced White House meeting Monday came as unofficial calculations indicated Nixon apparently was entitled to sizeable refunds in the last three years because of over-withholding of federal taxes from his salary.

The President opened the meeting with Vice President-designate Gerald R. Ford, GOP Chairman George Bush and seven Republican congressional leaders, by giving a 20-minute preview of his personal finances.

Then his aides and lawyers presented a 90-minute briefing on the series of statements and documents intended to refute allegations about presidential finances.

White House spokesmen would give no details, saying it was a private meeting, but Rep. John B. Anderson of Illinois, one of those attending, said the lawyers gave an extensive presentation of Nixon's financial situation while President.

"I am not an accountant, but they seem to have all the facts and figures in hand," Anderson said. He added that the attorneys defended Nixon's \$500,000 income tax deduction for donation of his vice presidential papers, quoting them as saying "they would be prepared to go to court and defend that deduction."

Others at the meeting were Sens. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Robert P. Griffin of Michigan, Norris Cotton of New Hampshire and John G. Tower of Texas and Reps. Leslie C. Arends of Illinois and John J. Rhodes of Arizona.

The Associated Press reported Sunday that White House

documents list the President as paying \$72,688 in federal income taxes for 1969, \$789 for 1970, \$878 for 1971 and \$4,298 for 1972.

A comparison of those figures with the Internal Revenue Service's minimum withholding rates indicates Nixon could have gotten tax refunds ranging upward from about \$45,000 for each of those years.

There was no official confirmation, however, of the precise amounts of the refunds, or whether the President received refund checks, savings bonds or applied the amounts to future taxes.

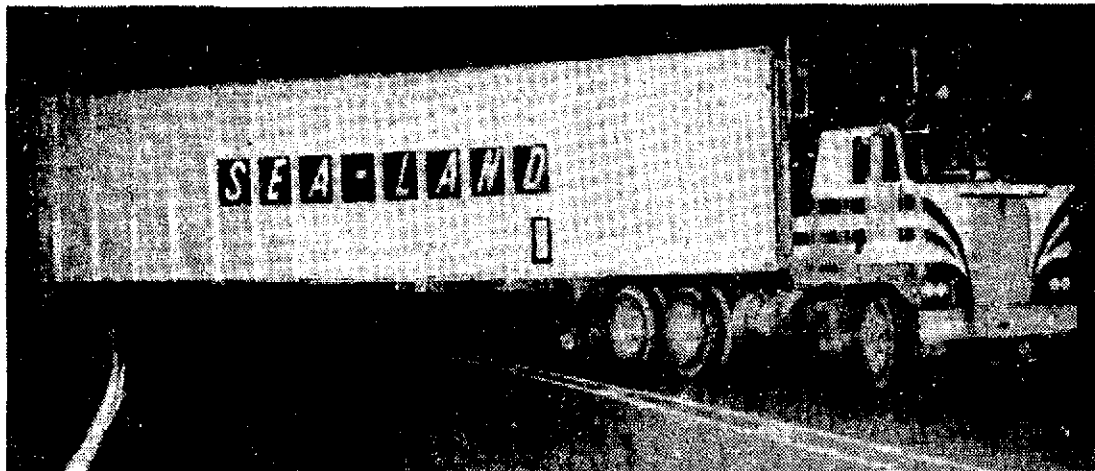
The unofficial computations also indicated that the amounts withheld from Nixon's \$200,000 salary in 1969 probably were not sufficient to cover the more than \$72,000 in taxes he paid that year — meaning he probably had to dig into his own pocket to pay the difference.

But during the next three years, the standard minimum withholding for an individual in Nixon's salary category would have ranged from about \$48,000 to about \$65,000 a year.

The IRS periodically changes the withholding formula for tax law changes.

White House documents report that the government withheld \$30,816 from Nixon's pay check in the first five months of 1969, a figure that roughly corresponds with the current standard minimum withholding rate.

The level of federal income taxes paid by Nixon dropped sharply when he began claiming deductions for donation of his vice presidential papers. Records show he also was entitled to sizeable deductions on property taxes and interest.



ROAD BLOCK: A truck is stretched across the entrance and exit paths of route 80 in Blakeslee, Pa. early Tuesday morning. Truck drivers blocked traffic to protest lowering of speed limits and the high cost of fuel. (AP Wirephoto)



POLICE CONFRONT DRIVERS: Pennsylvania State Policemen talk with protesting truck drivers in an effort to have them move their trucks that were parked on route 80 in Blakeslee, Pa. blocking traffic early this morning. The protest ended after about five hours. (AP Wirephoto)

Protesting Truckers Halt Freeway Traffic

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Truck drivers protesting high fuel prices and reduced speed limits blocked westbound lanes of an interstate highway in Ohio for two hours today, only hours after the end of a similar protest in Pennsylvania.

One driver was arrested in the Ohio demonstration, charged

with illegally parking on the highway. There were no arrests in the Pennsylvania protest which lasted about five hours and created a traffic jam involving 1,000 vehicles, according to authorities.

Officials said the Ohio demonstration began at about 7 a.m. when four trucks pulled up, two on the highway and two on the shoulders, and blocked westbound lanes of Interstate 70. Two of the trucks claimed mechanical trouble caused them to stop; the third said he was out of fuel.

The Ohio Highway Patrol said traffic was backed up for two miles at the height of the demonstration. They said they did not know how many trucks were involved.

The demonstration, about 10 miles east of Cambridge, ended at about 9 a.m. when the two broken down trucks were repaired and the Ohio Highway Patrol brought fuel for the third. The driver of the fourth truck, Robert Gallicchio of Somerset, N.J., offered no excuse for stopping and was arrested.

Gallicchio posted bond at Cambridge Municipal Court and was released.

The Pennsylvania protest on Interstate 80 near Blakeslee ended at about 3 a.m. after the truckers read a list of their demands to newsmen.

The blockade started shortly after 10 p.m. Monday night when a truck driver identifying himself as "River Rat" used a citizen's band radio transmitter to urge other truckers to pull their rigs across the east-west highway. State police said within an hour several hundred trucks had stopped near the Blakeslee exit in Monroe County, choking off traffic for up to five miles in both directions. Maj. Edward Wojanowski, state police said it was impossible to tell how many of the truckers were participating.

60-Cent Gasoline Pushed

Gasoline at 60 cents per gallon could result if Congress goes along with a plan to boost the federal tax on that fuel in an effort to reduce gasoline consumption. See article on page 7.

Cold Kills Five

ROME (AP) — The cold killed five persons during the night, including two new babies, and at least 12 persons were missing as snowstorms and north winds swept the Italian peninsula.

Political Gifts Would Be Open Book

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A bill slightly weaker than originally intended but which would open the books on political fund raisers is ready for a vote in the Michigan Senate.

The bill as it now stands requires those making political contributions of more than \$25 to list his name and address as well as the amount of his contribution. Amendments placed on the measure Monday night would exempt those making public contributions less than \$25. However, a person buying two \$24.99 tickets to a fund raiser—or spending more than a total \$25—would have to sign the list.

"I don't like the exemption for under \$25 because it still leaves a little loophole. But I think, on the whole, it will work," said Sen. Milton Zaagman, R-Grand Rapids, whose Municipalities and Elections Committee approved the bill 4-0 last Wednesday.

Sen. John Bowman, D-Roseville, introduced an amendment which would have eliminated reporting of all contributions less than \$25. Moments later Sen. William Ballenger, R-Lansing, who sponsored the bill, tacked on another amendment requiring the listing of anyone who spends more than a total of \$25 for the candidate.

"Somehow, in some small way this (the bill) will help restore credibility to this whole mess of campaign financings," said Zaagman. Ballenger called the bill "only a peashooter in what should be an artillery battle against campaign finance abuse."

While the fund-raising bill held center stage, two related measures are waiting nearby in the wings. One, which renewed some floor debate Monday would impose a conflict of interest code on non-elected state employees. The other—about to be reported out of Zaagman's committee—would shed public light on the whole field of campaign financing and impose heavy penalties for violations.

As reported from the committee, the fund-raising bill would force the listing and filing of all contributions—theoretically down to a penny—for political fund raisers such as dinners and banquets.

That brought a howl from Bowman and several other suburban Detroit Democrats, who complained red tape could snarl "one-dollar beer busts."

The measure—which would affect candidates to the U.S. Senate as well as those running for local school boards—requires the listing of contributors' names, addresses and amounts contributed.

Contributors and their money would be an open book before most elections since candidates or their committees would have to file with local county clerks "a full accounting of the expenses for the event and revenue from the event."

Additional money collected after the first accounting would have to be similarly reported within 10 days.

Copies of the reports would be filed in the secretary of state's office where they would remain public record for three years.

The law would apply to all persons or committees who spend for political fund raisers "for a public official or candidates for public office." Violation would be a misdemeanor.

TEEN DRIVER IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Watervliet Crash Takes 3 Lives

Two Berrien county residents and a Chicago man were killed and four other persons injured in a two-car crash Monday afternoon north of Watervliet.

Dead are Allen Post, 20, Fikes road, Riverside; Glenda Salmon, 14, Dan Smith road, Watervliet; and Joseph W. Hines, 48, Chicago.

Berrien sheriff's deputies said the crash occurred about 2:15 p.m. on M-140 near Dwight Boyer road in Watervliet township.

Officers said a car driven by Robert Scherer, 17, of 143 Allen court, Watervliet, skidded out of control on M-140 and was struck broadside by the Hines vehicle.

The deaths brought to 48 the number of persons who have died on Berrien roads this year. At the same date last year, 61 persons had been killed in traffic accidents.

Post and Miss Salmon were passengers in the Scherer auto. Scherer was taken to Watervliet Community hospital and later transferred to the intensive care unit of Benton Harbor Mercy hospital. He was listed in "critical" condition this morning.

Two passengers in the Hines car, Mary Murray, 29, and her 21-month-old daughter, Matricia, both of Chicago, were listed in "satisfactory" condition in Watervliet hospital.

The accident is still under investigation, according to deputies.

Surviving Glenda Salmon are her parents, Robert and Willdean Salmon; a brother Robert Jr., at home and her grandmothers, Mrs. Delphia Hammond of Watervliet and Mrs. Verdia Vincent of Coloma.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete today at the Hutchins funeral home, Watervliet.

Mr. Post was employed by the Pat Mason construction company of Benton Harbor.

Survivors include his wife, the former Cheryl Martin; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Post, of Bear Lake, Mich.; a half sister, Mrs. James (Judith Ann) Post, of Benton Harbor; and a grandmother, Mrs. Eva Post, of St. Joseph.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Day Brothers funeral home. Burial will be in New Troy cemetery.

48 Auto Deaths in Berrien County in 1973



TRIPLE FATALITY: Three persons were killed and four injured in the crash of these two cars Monday afternoon on M-140, north of Watervliet. Berrien sheriff's officers reported car at left driven by Robert M. Scherer, 17, Watervliet, skidded out of control and was struck by auto driven by Joseph W. Hines, 48, Chicago. Hines in trunk of car is precautionary measure against fire. (Cliff Stevens photo)

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SECTION THREE

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Concert Sold Out

BROADSTAIRS, England (AP) — Tickets were sold out quickly again this year for the annual carol concert to be conducted by British Prime Minister Edward Heath.

Winning numbers Crystal Springs Florist Open House 303898, 303626, 303343. Adv.

ALLEN POST Dies In Crash

GLENDAL SALMON Teenager Killed

Bodies May Be Kidnaped Boys

DETROIT (AP) — The bodies of two boys, believed to have been kidnaped in Detroit over the weekend, were found today in a ditch in suburban Romulus Township.

FBI agents and other police who had conducted an intensive hunt for the missing boys hurried to the area.

A Wayne County sheriff's officer said the bodies were found two blacks, five to eight years of age, but said the identities of the two boys had not been confirmed.

Further details were not available immediately. (See early story on page 8)

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

It's Possible 1974 Could Be Year Of The Bicycle

It begins to look as though 1974 may be the year of the bicycle. Every year is the year of the bicycle in some countries, where two-wheelers (not the motorized kind) are the commonest form of urban transportation. In the United States, the steady rise in biking we have witnessed over the past several years seems likely to take a big jump.

The impetus will come, of course, from the energy crisis. Especially if gasoline rationing is imposed, as it probably will be before very long, many people are going to discover that the bike is not a bad way to get around.

There are disadvantages, true. A bicycle can't go as fast as a car, nor is it as comfortable. The rider is exposed to wind and weather, a drawback that all but rules out bikes in northern areas during the winter months. A bike is not ideal for transporting large,

clumsy packages or anything that flops about. One encounters an occasional dog with a penchant for ankle-nipping. In a contest between car and bike, the latter almost always comes off second best.

But then one comes to the advantages. A splendid bike, geared for ease and speed, can be bought for a fraction of even the smallest auto's cost. Bikes require no fuel save that which sustains the inner man. Bicycling is healthful; it tones up muscles, improves circulation, trims off flab. Bikes are easy to park, and can thread in and out of slow-moving traffic at a pace that makes auto drivers clench the wheel in frustration.

A lot of people may feel that bicycling to work or to the shopping center is undignified. When gas is rationed, or priced at a dollar a gallon, they may change their minds. Maybe the year — or the age — of the bike is just about at hand.

Here's \$100 For Your Good Digestion, John

A minor but enduring American contribution to the art of politics is the fund-raising dinner. The party faithful pay for the privilege, or duty, of eating an indifferent meal and listening to lackluster speech-making. At the state and local level, chicken a la king and peas the texture of buckshot are standard fare. Holders of or aspirants to national office generally offer prime ribs of beef au jus. They had better, considering that each plate generally sells for \$100 or \$1,000.

An early starter on the 1974 political banquet circuit is John B. Connally, former Texas governor, former cabinet member, and former Democrat. Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R Ariz.) will be the guest speaker at a \$100-a-plate "Welcome John Connally" dinner, to be held in Dallas on Thursday, Dec. 13. The purpose of the affair, it may be assumed, is to welcome Connally to the Republican Party, to which he defected earlier this year. But GOP officials say that proceeds from the dinner will be used to support county

and state Republican headquarters and candidates in next year's elections.

For the sake of one's political image, it is important that all seats at a fund-raiser be sold in advance. A testimonial dinner for then-Vice President Spiro T. Agnew on May 19, 1972, fell substantially short of a sellout. The Maryland Republican Party thereupon obtained a \$50,000 loan from the Finance Committee to Re-Elect the President for the purpose of papering the house. "It was political puffery to make it (the Agnew dinner) look as good as possible..." said Maryland GOP Chairman Alexander M. Lankier Jr. when the story came out. "We hadn't sold the house out. We knew the press would look at the success of the affair. Don't forget, Agnew was not yet on the (Nixon re-election) ticket. We were anxious to make Agnew look as good as possible." Texas Republicans no doubt hope that the Dec. 13 dinner will do the same for John Connally.

Some Say It All Started With The Treaty Of Paris

A number of historians contend that the United States is an imperialistic power and has been for three-quarters of a century. In support of their argument, they point to the half-forgotten Treaty of Paris, which was signed exactly 75 years ago—on Dec. 10, 1898. By that pact, which formally ended the Spanish-American War, Spain relinquished all claim of sovereignty over Cuba and ceded to the United States the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. In effect, Spain handed over the bulk of its empire to the United States—and received only \$20 million in return.

The Spanish-American War had been immensely popular—possibly because it was so short—and public support of the Treaty of Paris was substantial. In urging Senate ratification of the pact, President McKinley declared: "The Philippines like Cuba and Puerto Rico were entrusted to our hands by the war, and to that great trust, under the Providence of God and

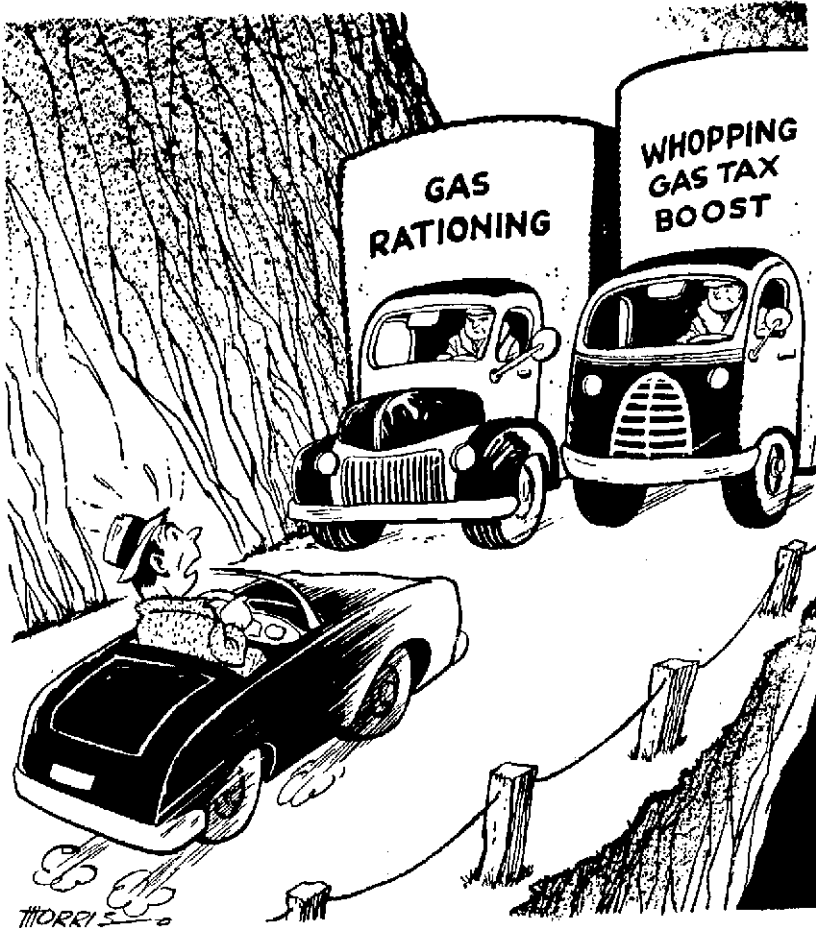
in the name of human progress and civilization, we are committed.... We could not discharge the responsibilities upon us until these colonies become ours, either by conquest or treaty. Our concern was not for territory or trade or empire, but for the people who interests and destiny, without our willing it, had been put in our hands."

Despite such rhetoric, it was by no means certain that the Senate would approve the treaty. The Anti-Imperialist League, formed in June 1898, included such distinguished Americans as Jane Grover Cleveland, Addams, Andrew Carnegie, and Samuel Gompers. The league insisted, Barbara Tuchman wrote in *The Proud Tower* (1966), that "The quest for power, money and glory abroad... would distract from reform at home and bring in its train a strong central government destructive of traditional states' rights and local liberties."

The treaty seemed doomed until William Jennings Bryan, McKinley's opponent in the presidential election of 1896, asked his supporters to vote for it. When the votes were tallied on the Senate floor on Feb. 9, 1899, the pact was ratified—by a one-vote margin. And so began this country's long imperialistic adventure, revisionist historians might say.

Others, noting how narrowly the Treaty of Paris squeaked through, could argue that American peace movements exert powerful influence, too. Strong anti-interventionist sentiment helped to keep this country out of World Wars I and II until almost the last possible moment. And the long Vietnam struggle gave rise to perhaps the most broadly based anti-war movement in American history. For the moment, at least, few Americans have any taste for further military adventures abroad.

What A Choice!



GLANCING BACKWARDS

EXPERIENCED LAKERS ARE TOUGH

— 1 Year Ago —

Experience can work both ways for a basketball team, and Lake Michigan Catholic coach Sam Skarich is well aware of the situation this year. The Lakers return six lettermen from last year, all regular players, making Skarich both optimistic and leery at the same time.

"All this experience is the biggest thing going for us," says the Laker coach. "But it doesn't matter what you have back. It's only what you get done on the court that counts. And everybody's going to be shooting at us, so there aren't going to be any easy games."

JANE DAMASKE NAMED STATE APPLE QUEEN

— 10 Years Ago —

Petite Jane Damaske, 18, of route 1, St. Joseph, was Tuesday evening chosen the 1964 Michigan Apple Queen. Miss Damaske, daughter of fruit growers Mr. and Mrs. William Damaske, was one of seven Apple Princesses competing in the state-wide finals, sponsored jointly by the Michigan Horticultural Society and the Michigan State Apple Commission.

ELKS HONOR THEIR DEAD

— 25 Years Ago —

A large number of friends and

relatives attended the impressive memorial services conducted by the St. Joseph Elks Lodge at the Elks Temple Sunday evening. The services, which honor the dead of the order, were held in the evening for the first time in the history of the local lodge.

The lodge of sorrow was conducted by the officers of the lodge under the direction of Exalted Ruler Arthur Traxler.

FLURRIES COME TO SJ

— 39 Years Ago —

Snow flurries, a swift drop in temperatures and a near gale that buried the harbor piers under giant waves, was December's greeting to St. Joseph. The mercury dropped 27 points from a high of 60 to 33 degrees.

GROWERS INCORPORATE

— 49 Years Ago —

Incorporation of a company of Michigan growers, headed by J.G. Boyle of Buchanan, which will market fruits grown here directly to consumers in Chicago, is announced.

EVENT OF THE SEASON

— 59 Years Ago —

The big event of the season socially was the opening party of the Whitcomb Dancing and Card club at the Hotel Whitcomb. Hosts were Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Canavan, Atty. and Mrs. Charles Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ogden Wells, Dr. and Mrs. W.L. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Young, Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Dickinson and Dr. A.A. Rosenberry. The affair was formal and many stunning gowns were worn for the first formal affair of the season.

\$1.04 A POUND

— 83 Years Ago —

Dick Lysaught has done an extensive business this season in shipping water cress and mushrooms. He gets \$1.04 a pound in Chicago for mushrooms.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

COMMENTS ABOUT SAN JUAN TRIP

Editor,
Business As Usual at City Hall.

While we ignorant taxpayers are being gouged for more taxes at every turn, these important city officials are going to blow themselves to a \$3,800 trip to sunny San Juan, to attempt to bring enough pressure to bear on their political counterparts in Washington to release vast sums of our tax money for them to flush down the city sewer.

These nonproductive programs are the joke of the century. The only real beneficiaries of most of these social programs are the ones who have set themselves up as directors and administrators and their assistants. I hear they are now hiring assistants to the assistants, and the real irony of all this is that some of these directors and administrators are about as far out of place in their position as a castrated bull would be in a pen filled with yearling heifers. They seem to be so busy cutting up a fat hog for themselves that they have almost forgotten what their purpose and the purpose of the programs really are.

In Benton Harbor more programs, more bureaus and new departments are the order of the day.

A while back they created a new department for the purpose of "changing the Skyline of Downtown Benton Harbor", this sounds like a sentence out of a comic book. Thus far the pigeons have contributed more to changing the skyline than this department has or ever will.

To many of us ignorant taxpayers who are footing the bill for this repetitious one-act comedy, this looks like little more than another form of welfare and high priced welfare at that.

There's one thing for sure, unless we get the message across to some of these politicians by ridding ourselves of them at the polls, there is little or no hope of things getting any better.

Oscar Kort
Route 1, Box 587
Coloma.

NIXON DEFENDED BY READER

Editor,
Mr. R. H. Konkin: This is in answer to your letter in the Readers Forum, Nov. 28.

Mr. Konkin, you should explain how you know President Nixon is flying all over the country and using 2,000 gallons of jet fuel. Do you think you can give any respect by not going along to abide with what he is asking of the people for their own good? You mention about writing to the Senators and Congressmen, letting them know how you feel about their not setting a good example. Do you think you are setting a good example by your Bla! Bla! You should have faith in your country and its leader. You say it is not necessary for the innocent to say they are not a crook. They haven't proven anything against him.

How do we know what you are? Why didn't you publicize all the wrong doings of the Democrats? They shouldn't let any of them ever have a place in the government again. The people are for Nixon for no other president ever won a second term by a landslide.

You said you were going to urge all of the voting public to write our Senators and Congressmen and let them know we do not like what is happening in Washington, they are not going to they are writing in praising him for his honesty and good he has done in bringing this world to peace terms, and that is more than the Democrats ever did.

It takes more than a politician to be president. To be successful you must hold all the virtues of leadership that were ever recorded in the Good Book. Master of foreign relations, expert in diplomacy, proud family man, visionary mind, financial whiz, humble in his job, faithful to his trust in protecting our security, aggressive for things loyal and right, master of emotions, cool to judge, kind, generous, sympathetic and a Christian. Richard Nixon has them all, they are his Golden Rule.

Mrs. Harold Sellers
Watervliet.

Ray Cromley

Our Security

Tied To Europe



WASHINGTON (NEA) — Secretary of State Dean Acheson once told this reporter the security of West Europe was so vital to U.S. defense that all else paled beside it.

We could afford, he said, to give way reluctantly in Southeast Asia, in Latin America and Africa if need be, but our existence would be endangered if we did not hold to Europe and Europe to us and if the European Allies did not stand firmly together.

This belief led indirectly to the Vietnam war. For it was the firmness of this conviction which caused Acheson to give way to French insistence that they stay in Indochina and that we back them in that stand. "I talk and talk to them but I make no headway," Acheson told me at the time. He was then, a quarter century ago, firmly convinced the French should go and the Indochinese be allowed to take over the government of that area from South to North. If Acheson had had his way, of course, there would have been no dividing lines and therefore no war to involve us. Acheson, in these sessions, was clearly unburdening himself, airing his inner doubts as to the wisdom of his course. But, valuing the alliances with France and Europe as he did, this crazy hawk saw no other way out but with Paris.

Today, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger holds the same belief about Europe.

Listen now to Kissinger, the strategist, a number of years back:

Were "the impotence of NATO to be demonstrated, all other areas would fall to the Soviet Union almost by default. Whatever their moral preferences, consideration of national interest would impel them to seek the best terms available. If Europe should prove unable to

resist Soviet pressure and if United States support should appear unavailing or unsuited to the nature of the threat, it would be futile to challenge any further demonstrations of Soviet power..."

This conviction explains Kissinger's strong reaction when key West European nations seemed to collapse before Arab pressure.

It wasn't the lack of cooperation with Washington that caused the greatest consternation here. For it could be said these Allies see things differently than Kissinger, the White House and the Pentagon. The West Germans, the French and the British could argue the Mideast war was a local skirmish not worth taking a stand, that this was no moral nor strategic Munich.

What bothered Kissinger was that the Allies at the start of the crises showed themselves divided and unable or unwilling effectively to help themselves and each other. When the threat first descended they were not able to agree on effective action to counter the Arab oil embargo. Only two had complete ration systems ready to go plus 65-day reserve stocks of oil. Some were reluctant to participate in any emergency sharing program. Nor could they at the first moment of truth agree on how to assist the Netherlands, a special Arab target.

But the latest news reports tell a different story. After initial dawdling, the European parliament of the nine nations of the Common Market recommended to their European Council of Ministers a strong common energy policy — sharing of scarce supplies, diversification of resources, consideration of economic counter-measures.

Jeffrey Hart

Nixon Parallel In Disney World



Making a quick trip to Orlando's Disney World to catch President Nixon's Saturday night press conference, and also address the newspaper editors assembled there for their annual meeting, I was first of all struck by the scene itself.

A pleasure dome had Kubla Khan... Disney World really is a pleasure dome, and also a vivid sociological datum. Like George IV's oriental palace at Brighton, like the Versailles of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, like the ancient hanging gardens of Babylon, Disney World is a perfect reflection of its time and place, a brilliant symbol of the American middle class that came to affluence and electoral power after World War II.

Disney World is not just an amusement park, but a

comprehensive resort, the product of very careful thought. In some ways it has everything: luxurious accommodations, golf course (on which there is an annual professional golf tournament), tennis courts, pools, beach and lake, nursery for the family baby, speedboats, sailing, saunas, midnight curise on a replica side-wheel steamboat, spectacular roof-top cocktail lounge, behind whose picture windows the tropical Florida sun sets in sullen splendor, French, American, Polynesian and other restaurants, a monorail train that whisks you from place to place — and, well, you name it.

All of this obviously fits the moderately affluent "typical" American family like a glove: babies to the nursery, teenagers to the amusement park or water-skiing, dad to the golf course (the golf carts leave right from the hotel), mom to the beauty parlor, the shops, the beach. With superb appropriateness, you don't even have to handle cash in Disney World, any more than you do in Scarsdale or Anaheim. When you register, they issue you a credit card, good throughout the establishment. For a week of sunny relaxation, indeed, that family could do worse.

Nixon's appearance there had a peculiar appropriateness. He himself is so much the symbol — indeed the political creation — of that post-World War II middle class. For Nixon, as for them, the war was a bridge between Depression and opportunity; he, like them, came back from the war and through luck and effort built a career. Disney World really is a pleasure dome, and standing there before the editors, fielding their questions with an unfamiliar ease of manner and language, Nixon had come home.

It was almost a mythic moment when, denying that he was a "crook," Nixon made the central American affirmation that he had "earned every penny I ever got."

BERRY'S WORLD



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SJ City Manager Hill Confirms Retirement



G. W. HEPLER
Waiting In Wings

Commission Will Name Successor

As this newspaper predicted in July, Leland Hill has resigned as city manager of St. Joseph effective January 1, two years prior to retirement age.

Hill, who will be 63 at the end of this month, submitted his resignation to the St. Joseph city commission last night to end a 38-year career with the city that includes nearly 23 years as city manager.

Standing in the wings as successor is C.W. (Jerry) Hepler, assistant city manager and director of public works in St. Joseph. Mayor Franklin Smith refused to definitely state that Hepler would be the new city manager, explaining that the

commission would sit down soon, perhaps next week, to name a successor.

But Smith indicated the city commission is not looking at other candidates and that Hepler is the front runner for the position. "Draw your own conclusions," he said.

The newspaper story in July also predicted that Hepler would succeed Hill.

Hill's current salary is \$26,735. His successor's salary will be set by the city commission.

In other business, the city commission elected Commissioner Joseph Hanley as Mayor Pro Tem to succeed C.A.



HILL RETIRES: Mayor Franklin Smith of St. Joseph (left) read City Manager Leland Hill's resignation statement last night to the St. Joseph city commission. Hill's resignation is effective Jan. 1,

two years before retirement age. Hill decided to retire about 10 months ago and revealed his intentions to the commission earlier this year. From left: Smith, Hill and Commissioner Warren Gast.

Tobias, Jr. who resigned from the commission last month, and awarded the contract for ex-

pansion of the water treatment plant to Pearson Construction Company of Benton Harbor.

Asked why he is resigning early, Hill said he wants to spend some time with his wife "which is something I haven't been able to do for 25 years," with plans to "do whatever I please when I please."

In a brief statement, Hill said: "I have enjoyed working with the commission and really appreciate the cooperation and guidance you have given over the years. I further appreciate the cooperation of the citizens of St. Joseph. The understanding and help of everyone has been outstanding. These items and many more contribute to the healthy condition in which we find the city."

Hill said he has worked with Hepler for 10 years and has "trained" him to step into the city manager position, but emphasized that it is "up to the commission" to choose a successor.

A native of St. Joseph, Hill has spent his whole life in the area and said he intends to stay here after his retirement. "I have lots of hobbies," he said, noting "a thousand dollars of fishing equipment that I use 10 days a year." He said he also plans to golf and hunt. Asked if he would travel, Hill said "where would I get the gasoline?"

Hill started with the city in 1935 and served as building inspector and city assessor until 1945 when he was named assistant city manager. He is only the second city manager in St. Joseph since 1928 when his predecessor, Herman G. Crow, took office. Crow died in 1951 and Hill became city manager.

Looking back, Hill said some of the achievements he is proud of include urban renewal, the rebuilding of half the downtown area into a more progressive area, paving of all city streets, a variety of public works projects and bigger and better equipped police and fire departments.

Hill said he is leaving his successor a "city in excellent shape both physically and financially." When he took office, Hill said he wanted to see the job was done properly and "I feel I have done so." He said "I am sure I miss the city manager position, but I can't tell with any accuracy until I am out."

City Atty. A.G. Preston, Jr., who has served with the city since the late 1940's, said "I will miss 'Sam' Hill badly."

Smith said Hill had indicated his desire to retire earlier this year, adding "you will be missed by me, the commission and the people who have worked with you." The city commission then approved a resolution accepting Hill's resignation with regret.

In the audience, former Mayor Tom Sparks said "just look around you" to see what Hill has accomplished. "He has done an excellent job and served the city well under pressure," Sparks said, adding that Hill and Crow were "two of the finest city managers in the United States."

In other business, the com-

mission approved awarding the contract for expansion of the St. Joseph water treatment plant to Pearson Construction Company as low bidder. The low bid was announced at \$2,898,000 during bidding Nov. 20, but an arithmetical error was discovered raising the bid to \$2,902,950. But a \$33,200 deduction in equipment leaves the actual contract at \$2,869,750.

The contract will be let by the Berrien County Board of Public Works.

The commission also approved the low bid of \$188,181 by Woodruff and Sons of Michigan City, Ind. for construction of a 30-inch ductile iron

transmission main from the Water plant up Lake court to Lakeshore drive.

Also, the commission approved purchase of a waste pump for lift stations from Krum Pump company of Kalamazoo for \$3,635 out of revenue sharing funds.

Record \$659,845 Budget Passed By Catholic School

The Lake Michigan Catholic board of education last night approved a record \$659,845 budget, a 4.7 per cent increase over

the 1972-73 budget.

Robert Gentry, chairman of the budget and finance committee, said the 1973-74 budget was

the biggest in the five-year history of the school. Last year's budget was \$631,000.

Gentry declined to state

where the additional funds will come from, and Don Stock, high school principal, noted the school system already has about \$30,000 in unpaid bills, of which about \$24,000 is carryover from last year.

Gentry said spending through the end of October is on course with the budget, adding "the proposed budget numbers are in line with what we've done so far."

The motion approving the budget was passed unanimously. Gentry did say that one source of income for the system is the bingo games.

The board also asked Rev. Leroy White to check into the possibility of getting a watchdog to roam the halls of the middle school at night. Father White said the school has been offered a large dog free of charge.

Reward For Slayer Reaches \$2,000

The reward has risen to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayer of William S. Sheffield, proprietor of a Benton township furniture store.

Benton Township Police Chief Joe Sieber said the Sheffield family has posted a \$1,500 reward which combined with a \$500 reward announced last month brings the total to \$2,000.

Sieber also said police need new leads in the

investigation of the slaying that occurred Nov. 8 at Sheffield's store, 1378 Territorial road.

He appealed to anyone with additional information on the case to call the township police station with the assurance that "their names will not be used."

The \$500 reward was posted by Kenneth Haynes, a service station operator and also a relative of Sheffield.

SJ Township Will Give Apartments A New Chance

St. Joseph township board last night voted to rescind its action of Nov. 20 which denied rezoning of a 20 acres on Cleveland avenue for construction of apartments.

The board vote was unanimous. The vote followed Trustee Robert DeVries' criticism of board action without giving the developer, Wayne Nelson of Indianapolis, Ind., a chance to testify.

The vote also followed receipt

of a legal opinion that the planning commission in recommending rezoning by a 4-3 margin with the chairman abstaining did not constitute a majority vote.

Atty. John Crow suggested the request to rezoned land at 3563 Cleveland just north of Maiden Lane from R-2 (single family) to R-5 (multi-family) be sent back to the planning commission.

Atty. Crow also suggested

that the township insist that the County Planning Commission either formally approve or disapprove the proposed change. Atty. Crow also said he believed the county planners had 60 days to act.

There was brief discussion before the 15 persons in the audience. Supervisor Orval L. Benson turned over the gavel of the meeting to Treasurer Einar (Larry) Larson to eliminate any conflict of interest charges. Benson said he had once listed the property when he was a real estate broker.

Persons in the audience said Nelson had as much notice as anyone of the meeting held Nov. 19 in E. P. Clarke elementary school. It was at that meeting that a motion to disallow any rezoning was passed.

DeVries in his statement traced the action from the time the plan was presented in June to the rejection and asked that the developer be given an opportunity to present his project. Said DeVries: "As with almost all rezoning requests of this type there are objecting pressure groups. If this township is to continue to grow and develop we must override these pressure group wishes and do what is best for total township residents."

In other action the township approved a sewer line

agreement with Lincoln township on Maiden Lane; noted board of review meeting will be 1 p. m. Dec. 11; and heard Larson say that winter tax bills have been mailed.

In response to a question from the audience, Benson explained the \$30 inspection fee required after each sanitary sewer hookup. He said the inspection is to assure quality of materials and workmanship in making the connection.

BH Woman Hospitalized By Gunshot

A 27-year-old Benton Harbor woman was shot in the shoulder with a rifle early this morning, and her father arrested on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, Benton Harbor police reported.

Listed in "fair" condition at Benton Harbor Mercy hospital was Noreen Gaspy, of 185 Calfax avenue. Booked into the county jail was Jake Gaspy, 71, of the same address.

Police indicated the shooting occurred about 1:40 a.m. with a .22 caliber rifle as the result of a family quarrel.

Fulcher Listed In 'Fair' Condition

Veteran Berrien county Assistant Prosecutor Quentin R. Fulcher was in "fair" condition early today at Mercy hospital, Benton Harbor, with a flareup of a diabetic condition.

According to court, hospital and family spokesmen, the 48-year-old assistant prosecutor

became ill while arguing a motion to suppress evidence in an armed robbery case about 4:20 p.m. Monday in Judge Julian Hughes' Berrien circuit courtroom.

Fulcher asked for a recess, rested in Judge Hughes' office, and was brought to Mercy by ambulance.

He was expected to be hospitalized a few more days.

Fulcher, of 1757 Council drive, Benton township, has been an assistant prosecutor some 16 years and was named the county's first fulltime assistant in 1967.

Ypsilanti Fire Called Arson

YPSILANTI, Mich. (AP) — State Police Fire Marshall James Thomas says arson was the cause of a \$300,000 fire that swept through Ypsilanti's business district last week.

No one was reported injured in the blaze that roared through the Popular Furniture and Appliance Co. and Auto Parts Inc. Thursday.



QUENTIN R. FULCHER
Assistant Hospitalized

BH Commission Has Quick Session

Benton Harbor City Commissioner F. Joseph Flaugh, who served as mayor in 1951-55, returned to mayoral duties for one night Monday and guided the commission through its agenda in 23 minutes.

Flaugh was elected mayor pro tem in the absence of Mayor Charles Joseph and Mayor Pro Tem Virgil May, who are at a convention in Puerto Rico. Also in Puerto Rico are Commissioners Charles Yarbrough and Bonita Branscum. The five commissioners present last night constituted a quorum, however.

The business included approval of an expense report form for

use by elected officials; the appointment of Commissioner Edward Merrill to the Twin Cities Area Transportation Study committee; and the scheduling of public hearings on two zoning matters for the meeting on Dec. 26.

The expense form, proposed by Flaugh earlier this year, is designed to provide a detailed account of all commissioners during official trips. Flaugh did not question anyone's honesty, but termed a detailed report form good business.

Commissioners are paid 10 cents a mile for using their personal

cars; actual cost of meals when outside Berrien county; and actual cost of lodgings. They also are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The public hearings will deal with two proposed zoning changes: Permit existing, but non-conforming commercial businesses to enlarge their stores up to 50 per cent; and reduce the depth of rear property on commercial sites from 20 to 10 feet. Currently, businesses in areas zoned for other purposes may not alter their stores.



SHOPPING DAYS
TO CHRISTMAS

17



rolling today with a \$15 contribution, and the VFW Fruit Belt Post No. 1137 came through with \$5.
C'mon, Good Fellows, let's go.

HP Good Fellows Campaign \$150 Closer To Goal

Herald-Press Good Fellows were busy with their Christmas chores and as a result the 1973 campaign took a \$150 step toward its \$3,500 goal.

It takes a while for a tradition to become established but the habit of including a gift to the Good Fellows has been going on for over 40 years. But while the idea may be old and time tested each gift has a fresh and appealing quality about it.

There is \$587 in the fund since it started the day after Thanksgiving. That means there is \$2,913 to go. No one can say for sure where the money will come from but year in and year out a

lot of people remember to become Good Fellows.

First in was "A Friend" who walked over from South State street with \$5. Then Jennifer and John Keil Wilson sent in \$10. Their father is an old friend of the Good Fellows.

Twin Cities Area Newcomers Club, Inc. is no newcomer to Good Fellows and they back Good Fellows with \$15.

Fruit Belt Post No. 1137, Veterans of Foreign Wars, which does a lot of Christmas good on their own, sent in \$5 to help Good Fellows help.

From out Bridgman way comes \$10 split up \$2.50 each for Duke, Mike, Phoebe and Ladd with a note that even dogs and horses like to help the Good Fellows make someone's Christmas a little merrier.

Fruit Belt Navy Mothers Club No. 164 have added \$5 to the Good Fellow total.

Finally the North Shore Baskets who never miss a Good Fellow Christmas rolled in \$100.



Illegal Entry Is Charged

NILES — Two men were charged with illegal entry after they were arrested by city police at Niles Waste Paper, 853 North Front street, about 11:30 p.m. yesterday.

Police identified them as Gary L. Myers, 26, of 1818 Ferry street, Niles, and Paul A. Johnson, 23, Eau Claire.

Officers said they observed a man climbing over a fence at the firm, and found two men inside.

Gov. Milliken Hails Proposed Bertrand Plant

Western Electric Distribution Center Faces Zoning, Referendum Fights

By LYLE SUMERIN
South Berrien Bureau

NILES — Even as Gov. William Milliken was praising plans for a \$5 million Western Electric material supply center in nearby Bertrand township, opposition to the planned construction began to surface.



DONALD F. RYMAN
Fights rezoning

Atty. Donald Ryman of Buchanan, a member of the Berrien County Planning commission, button-holed Western Electric officials at the Holiday Inn announcement luncheon yesterday with a strong protest. Mrs. Bernard Henely, 2410 Weaver road, Bertrand township, told this newspaper yesterday afternoon that her husband will lead a petition drive to secure a referendum aimed at blocking rezoning of the 110 acres where Western Electric plans to build.

Gov. Milliken obviously had thought about the possible pro's and con's of the four-state material service center before addressing Western Electric, Michigan Bell and local and county officials.

He called the proposed plant an "important economic boost" for Niles and the state. He described the proposed warehouse and distribution center as architecturally attractive.

And the governor emphasized

that the center would operate "without polluting either the air or the water."

Milliken took pains to describe Western Electric as having demonstrated itself "over and over again as a corporate good citizen, interested in promoting the overall best interests of the community and the state."

The governor described himself as "very honored to take part" in the formal announcement.

"It (the new plant) is good for Western Electric; it's good for Niles; and it's good for the state," he declared.

Milliken said the new center would employ 300 persons and have an annual payroll of \$3.6 million.

"Our efforts to bring new industry to Michigan are aimed very simply at creating new jobs," the governor said. "We feel that we have an obligation to do everything we can to assure that every Michigan citizen who wants to work has the opportunity to do so."

Milliken added "And the fact is that the most promising way in which we can achieve that very humanitarian and socially desirable goal is to create a climate in which business can operate profitably, with a maximum of governmental cooperation and encouragement and a minimum of governmental interference and harassment."

This newspaper Saturday revealed plans for the proposed plant. It is to be a one-story, 600,000 square foot structure covering 14 of the 110 acres and is to be located at Chicago road (US-12) and Chamberlain road, a mile southwest of here.

The center is to serve as a material storage and distribu-

tion center for Bell systems throughout Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. It is the sixth of seven regional service centers being built by Western Electric, the manufacturing and supply arm of the Bell systems.

The site for the building is currently zoned for agricultural use and would have to be rezoned to light industrial use to clear the way for construction.

Ryman said he was opposed to the change because it would not conform to a county development plan and because he was concerned about the "ringing" of Niles with industrial zoning.

Ryman, an attorney for Clark Equipment company in Buchanan, at one time was chairman of the county planning commission which developed the county development plan.

The county commission has already gone on record against the proposed change. In a 5 to 0 vote, with one abstention and five absences, the commission voted for rejection at a meeting June 14. The commission is an advisory group to local governments.

The five voting were Robert Palmer, Coloma township, chairman; H. Edward Totzke, Benton Harbor; Robert Pagel, Berrien Springs; Charles Hollinger, St. Joseph, and Ryman.

Abstaining was Arthur Reed of Niles. Absent were C. W. Henkle, Lakeside; Howard Bishop, Coloma township; Leo Rutz, Watervliet; Jerome Krieger, Sedos and Fred Krause, Niles.

The action was based on what the commission labelled "spot zoning" and a lack of specific development information. No details of the proposed center had yet been made public.

Mrs. Henely said petitions bearing more than 400 signatures of area residents opposed to the location had already been submitted to the township board. She said the earlier petition drive had been led by her husband, who is an attorney for Clark Equipment.

"Once something like this gets started," Mrs. Henely said, "it has a tendency to sprawl. We have too few nice areas to live now."

The residents, said Mrs. Henely, are not opposed to Western Electric, just the site.

Despite the opposition, Township Supervisor Brayton Yaw said, after yesterday's announcement program, that he would recommend to the township board that it approve the rezoning.

The supervisor said he did not expect action on the change, however, until after a public meeting in January.

The township's zoning board May 19 recommended to the township board that it rezone the land, before it knew the details of the development, according to Herman Hoekstra, zoning board chairman.

Hoekstra said the board took action on the basis that the change was proposed by Township Atty. Harold Klute of Niles.

According to Hoekstra, Klute told the zoning board the land was wanted by a "blue chip" company and that the facility would not degrade or pollute the



ANNOUNCEMENT PRINCIPALS: Gov. William Milliken, left, was among principals at luncheon in Niles where plans for \$5 million Western Electric material supply center were detailed yesterday. Center is to be located in Bertrand township and serve Michigan Bell Telephone company as well as

Bell systems in three other nearby states. With Milliken from left, are Brayton Yaw, Bertrand township supervisor; Daniel K. Chinlund, Western Electric vice president; and David K. Eastlick, Michigan Bell president. (Staff photo)

area.

Klute, Bertrand township attorney for 20 years, is representing Western Electric. He asked to be relieved in the rezoning matter and was

replaced by Atty. John Spelman of St. Joseph.

Hoekstra said the zoning board's action was based on an understanding that the township board would not act on the

rezoning until detailed plans were available.

Voting with Hoekstra were Albert Stekman Jr., Richard Bassler and Jack Welbaum, the entire board.

The proposed rezoning has been before the township board since spring, but township officials said they did not know who was involved until last week.

Berrien Springs

Well Site Options Okayed

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Berrien Springs village council last night voted to buy for \$3,000 the purchase rights for two parcels of property on which the village will drill for water.

Last night's action is the latest in the series of village attempts to find new sources of water to meet demands of a growing population around the village.

Village President Edgar Kesterke said the village has spent "close to \$20,000" in test holes that have produced mostly dry holes.

He said the village is under orders from the state water resources commission to find new water sources if the village is to extend water mains beyond village limits.

Options purchased by the council last night were for two near 10-acre parcels in Berrien township, according to Village Clerk Wade Gorham.

One parcel of approximately 10 acres is owned by Elmer Raffier, Gorham said, and the other parcel, also approximately 10 acres, is owned by Glenn Prillwitz, he said.

Raffier is asking \$4,000 an acre for his land and Prillwitz is asking \$83,000 for his near 10-acre parcel, Gorham said.

If the village finds water on either parcel it will have by last night's action an option to buy the land at those prices, Gorham said.

In other action last night, the council voted to continue to hold village elections on an annual basis.

Bridgman Buses Will Keep Running

BRIDGMAN — Bridgman school board members were told last night that at the present time it appears the district will have ample fuel to run school buses for the remainder of the school year without a cutback.

Dr. David Lechner, school superintendent, told the board that the district should "break even" on the amount of fuel used.

Lechner said, however, that no additional activities in which adding to fuel consumption are contemplated. In a related area, Lechner said that

the district will spend about \$15,000 more for electricity than was spent last year. He reported that about \$65,000 was spent last year for electric service.

Lechner said that additional electric service needed this year for the new high school and community swimming pool were reasons for the cost increase.

In other areas, the board adopted a section into its constitution dealing with the development of district policies, regulations and bylaws. Action was taken as

part of the process of attaining North Central association (NCA) accreditation for the high school.

Anthony Korican, high school principal, reported that the accreditation project is proceeding on schedule. Korican added that the chairman of the NCA visitation team, whose committee will make the final decision on the school's accreditation, will visit the high school Dec. 10.

Korican reported that approximately 700 hours had been logged thus far by the accreditation steering committee, and anticipated an equal amount of hours will be expended by the committee before the process is completed.

The board voted to join the Berrien county cooperative purchasing program for the 1974-75 school year. Lechner reported that the board's membership in the program would provide it with more competitive prices in the purchasing of school supplies.

Baroda Welcomes Big Expansion Of Casting Firm

BARODA — Baroda village council last night approved plans to locate Lakeside Manufacturing company in new quarters.

The council approved issuance of a building permit for the new structure.

Larry Holben, one of owners, said the company needed the new building because it has outgrown present facilities on First street. Planned is a 100 by 125 foot building at the south end of the street, estimated by Holben to cost \$100,000.

He estimated construction would start in about 90 days, weather permitting.

Holben described the company's operation as the machining of die castings, and said it was a quiet, clean, and non-polluting process.

In other business, Howard Gaul, water superintendent, announced he would flush water hydrants in the village Saturday afternoon, Dec. 8. He advised housewives to be aware of rust-colored water during flushing

operations.

Gaul asked that any village resident interested in reading water meters to contact him.

Clerk Ilcen Tollas announced the deadline for filing nominating petitions for village office is 4 p.m. Dec. 31. Petitions are available at her residence, 9050 Fifth street.

Officials whose terms expire are President Edwin Tomlinson (R), Clerk Tollas (D), Treasurer Leona Ott (D), and Assessor Henry Nitz (R), all two-year terms; and Trustees Ronnie Miller (R), Henry Reitz (D) and Leon Zordell (R), four-year terms.

Mrs. Tollas said that under a new state law, trustees are elected to four-year terms and the three trustees whose terms expire in 1975 will serve until 1976.

All officials except Tomlinson have indicated they plan to seek re-election. Tomlinson is stepping down due to health reasons.



110 YEARS OLD: Mrs. Nellie Oline, born Dec. 4, 1863 in Branch County, Michigan, is celebrating her 110th birthday today. Mrs. Oline was given a birthday party Sunday at the Maple Lawn Rest Facility in Coldwater where she resides. She received letters of congratulation from President Nixon, Gov. Milliken, Senator Griffin, Lt. Gov. Brickley, vice-president designate Jerry Ford and several other leading politicians. (AP Wirephoto)

Draft Violator Ordered To Work

KALAMAZOO — Kenneth Johnson, 22, of 1015 South Indiana, South Haven, was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District court here to 20 months of probation after pleading guilty to failing to keep his draft board informed of his whereabouts.

Judge Noel P. Fox ordered Johnson to spend 15 hours of nationally important work per week for 20 months. A probation officer said this usually involves community-oriented work such as in hospitals and social agencies.

A spokesman for the U. S. attorney in Grand Rapids said Johnson was indicted in June 1973 for failure to appear for induction into military service in November 1971. He was arrested by FBI agents last August.

The spokesman said Johnson was listed as living in Champaign, Ill., in November 1971, and the charge was reduced after it was established that he had not received a draft notice.

Van Buren Group Given Aging Grant

COVERT — A \$1,706 planning grant has been awarded to the Van Buren United Civic organization by the Michigan Commission on aging, according to Charles Proctor, president of the civic organization.

Proctor said the grant, to be matched by services and contributions at the local level, will be used to develop applications for funding for senior citizen programs in the county.

He said meetings to plan such programs will be held in various communities in the county.

He said plans for senior citizen programs will be developed by a sister organization of the United Civic organization, the Senior Citizens United for Progress.

Palisades Shutdown Cuts Into Revenue

Covert Twp. Gets Good, Bad Tax News

COVERT — Covert township residents were receiving good news in the mail about this year's property taxes, but were getting a warning about next year's tax situation from the township board last night.

Supervisor Jerry Sarno informed the board that the extended shutdown of the \$125 million Palisades nuclear power plant, located in the township, could cut deeply into township tax funds next year.

The plant has been shutdown since August for repairs and is not expected to re-open until early next year. Its taxable value is based in part on its operation.

Sarno said the taxable value might be cut by 25 per cent because of the shutdown, thereby cutting 20 per cent or \$42,000 from the township's expected \$212,000 in property tax revenue.

Sarno said a decrease in the Consumer Power company's plant taxable value would also cut into funds for schools and other taxing units covering the township.

The schools, Sarno indicated, would stand to face the greatest cutback since it now receives over \$1 million from township property taxes.

The plant's taxable value this year is \$45,397,215 or 80 per cent of the township's total taxable value of \$54,379,057. The township figure is up \$12 million over last year due largely to added value from the plant.

Sarno's report came when township residents were receiving 1973 tax bills which showed an 8.4 mill reduction in the tax rate. The drop came from defeat of a seven-mill school property tax renewal issue earlier in the year; a 65 mill decrease in a school debt retirement levy and a township road fund and expiration of a three-quarter mill levy of the South Haven Community hospital authority.

In other action, Fire Chief Tony Sarno was authorized to purchase a second ambulance for the township's ambulance service for about \$19,000. Most of the cost is to be reimbursed from the county's 4 mill property tax for ambulance service, township officials reported. They said the remainder would be covered by federal revenue sharing funds.

A low bid of \$8,100 was accepted from R. A. Imus Inc. of Paw Paw for a Dodge truck chassis for a new fire truck. Sarno reported the chassis is being financed out of federal revenue sharing funds.

Equipment for the truck is expected to cost another \$30,000, according to officials.

In another federal revenue sharing purchase, the board agreed to buy for \$6,500 the Lindsey property on Lake street west of the fire department building for use as a parking area.

Trustees voted that lighted Christmas decorations in the Covert business district will be turned on Dec. 24 and 25. In previous years, the township decorations have been lighted from Thanksgiving through the first week of January.

The board increased the township police force to four men by hiring Nelson Madry, 41, of South Haven, as a new officer.

Madry, who has nine years experience in police work in Indiana, was interviewed and recommended by Lt. Glen Foster of the South Haven state police post, Clerk F. B. Hoffacker reported.

Township Atty. Sheldon Rupert notified the board in a letter that the township legally cannot make any payment to a private organization to help the organization defray expenses. At the November board meeting, the Van Buren United Civic organization had asked for a donation to help defray costs for paving the parking lot at the organization's Lake street building.